



The Bumblebees Class at Bellevue Discovery Preschool

An exploratory learning parent-child activity class

2020-2021 School Year Bumblebees Calendar

Fridays, 10:00am to Noon

Spring Session

What can I discover with my senses?

April 24, May 1, 8, 15

Registration opens February 1

2020-2021 School Year Bumblebees Calendar

Fridays, 10:00am to Noon

Session 1

Nature Explorations

October 9, 16, 23 and 30

Registration opens July 1

Session 2

Sensory Science Explorations

Nov. 13 & 20, Dec. 4 & 11

Registration opens August 1

Session 3

Snow & Ice Explorations

January 8, 15, 22 and 29

Registration opens November 1

Session 4

Garden Explorations

May 7, 14, 21 and 28

Registration opens March 1



To register: Admissions@BellevueDiscovery.org

Registration

Ages: Children must be 18 to 30 months at the first class of a Bumblebees session.

Class Fee: The \$200 registration fee for the 4-week session is non-refundable despite the number of classes your child attends.

Payment: A check for the registration fee should be mailed to:

Bellevue Discovery Bumblebees, 15600 NE 8th Street, Ste. B1-747, Bellevue, WA 98008-3927

Enrollment: The online registration form and registration fee must be received by Bellevue Discovery before your child will be enrolled in a Bumblebees session; space is limited and you will be notified by email about your child's registration status after we receive your registration form and fee. If the class is full your check will be returned and your child will be put on the class wait list.

Immunization Form: The Washington State Department of Health requires that all children enrolled in classes at a preschool - including the Bumblebees class - have a complete immunization form on file with the preschool. We recommend that Bellevue Discovery families use the state's My Immunization Records online immunization form (MyIR.net) - you will find this a huge timesaver over the years to meet your child's preschool, school and summer camp immunization records requirements. If you don't use MyIR, you may use the Certificate of Immunizations form (PDF) attached to the email that sent you this link. A completed copy of your child's immunization records (MyIR or paper CIS) must be received and reviewed by Bellevue Discovery before your child may attend a Bumblebees class. Please email us the MyIR link or mail us the CIS at least one week before your child's first day of class.

Siblings: Siblings who are 18-30 months are welcome to attend. Two siblings may share a parent or caregiver. There is no sibling discount.

Infants: If a parent/caregiver needs to bring an infant, the infant must be "worn" or carried at all times; licensing does not allow infants to be placed in car seats on the floor or tables in a preschool classroom, and the Bumblebees room does not have space for strollers. Your infant does not need to be registered for Bumblebees, but please let us know if you expect to bring your baby along with your toddler. We will ask Bumblebees parents to be a supportive community and embrace the babies in our midst, however if your infant's crying becomes disruptive to the Bumblebees' learning, a teacher will ask you collect your toddler and walk outside with both children until the crying subsides.

School Closures: If a class must be cancelled due to weather or other safety emergency, Bellevue Discovery will select a replacement day for the class; there will be no partial refund if a replacement day is offered.

The Bumblebees Class

Parent Orientation Meeting: Please join Bumblebees Lead Teacher Arienna Lisenby ("Miss Ari") and Early Childhood Specialist Arlene Winter ("Miss Arlene") for our parent orientation meeting:

Wednesday, April 22, 2020, 10:00 to 11:00am

The Parent Orientation Meeting is for adults only, except newborns. If a staff member is not at the Bellevue Discovery security gate, please use the buzzer.

Teachers: The Bumblebees class has a 1:4 teacher-child ratio, plus a parent or caregiver for each child (two siblings may share a parent/caregiver)

Supervision: Parents/caregivers are responsible for their own children's supervision and body care

Diaper changing: If your toddler is not potty trained you must bring your own changing pad and supplies. After changing your child in one of the restrooms, please bag the soiled materials and take them home for disposal. Parents/caregivers are expected to clean and sanitize the area they use for diaper changing.

Participation: Children may be gently encouraged to engage in the activities, but it is not developmentally appropriate to force toddlers to participate in a class activity.

Parent Education: Bellevue Discovery's Early Childhood Specialist, Arlene Winter, will lead a weekly parent discussion during class time.

Location: The Bumblebees class is held in the Grasshoppers classrooms at Bellevue Discovery Preschool, on the east side of the JDS school campus (Bellevue Discovery is not connected to JDS):

15749 NE 4th Street, Bellevue (two blocks south from Crossroads Mall).

Parking: You may park in any unmarked space in the school parking lot. Please hold your child's hand in the parking lot. Bellevue Discovery uses the security gate at the east end of the parking lot (gate #3, with a blue Bellevue Discovery sign). A staff person will open the gate from 9:55 to 10:55am for the Bumblebees class. If you arrive after 10:55am, please use the buzzer.

Flexible Bumblebees Schedule

The class schedule is flexible and will be adjusted by the Bellevue Discovery teaching team based on the children's needs and interests.

The Bumblebees explore a multi-week theme through sensory play, songs, movement, stories, art and science. We work on preschool-readiness skills: following a gentle schedule, playing with friends, relating with a teacher, and growing toward independence.

Discovery Time: 10:00 to 10:30am

The Bumblebees teachers set up hands-on learning stations with activities based on our weekly theme, designed to stimulate the senses and foster play. Toddlers may head right to the exploratory activities or take their time observing and adjusting to the surroundings.

Activity Time: 10:30 to 11:00am

We divide the class in half, usually based on age, and the groups rotate through the two activities. As we get to know the toddlers we adapt the projects to their ability levels.

Activity 1 – Art Studio: In the Art Studio, a Bellevue Discovery teacher creates a new art project each week to support our theme.

Activity 2 – Science Lab: In the Science Lab, a Bellevue Discovery teacher designs a new hands-on science experiment each week to support our theme.

Circle Time: 11:00 to 11:15am

We introduce the toddlers to preschool Circle Times. Parents and caregivers may join us on the rug. We sing, talk about how to be a friend, and enjoy movement ... stomping like dinosaurs, adding items to a felt board story, or playing musical instruments.

Snack & Story Time: 11:15 to 11:30am

The children wash their hands, get their water bottles from their cubbies, and sit down to a small snack. They practice eating independently at school (which might be different from home) and cleaning up after themselves. After children have settled in to snack time, the teachers read stories.

Outdoor Time: 11:30am to 12:00pm

As children cleaning up from snack time, we get ready to go outside. We foster independence: putting on shoes and coats all by themselves is an important preschool learning experience. When small groups of children are ready, the teachers lead the children and their caregivers to our fenced play area for running around, digging in the sandboxes, and making friends. We play outside rain or shine – except in stormy weather. We support young children getting messy!

Goodbye Song: 12:00pm

We sing our goodbye song each week as a transition from preschool to home.



After the Bumblebees

We hope the Bumblebees class is a good introduction to Bellevue Discovery Preschool. If you believe our preschool would be a good fit for your child you are encouraged to apply. There is no automatic preschool enrollment for Bumblebees students.

Bellevue Discovery Preschool teachers follow best practices from NAEYC (National Association for the Education of Young Children) and NAGC (National Association for Gifted Children). Although almost 90% of our preschoolers move on to gifted programs, enrollment at Bellevue Discovery should not be considered a guaranty that a child will qualify for gifted programming.