

The UNLV/CSUN Preschool Newsletter



Claire's Corner

Dear Families:

As we move into the Spring Semester at UNLV we are hopeful that the health and welfare of our community and nation will begin to heal from the hardship of this past year. It is definitely a time to reflect and focus upon the positive events in our life and care for each other during COVID times that may continue to be stressful. On behalf of the staff, I extend a sincere appreciation to our families for their consideration and understanding during our open and closed times this past year. Our plan for 2021 is to build our enrollment back up within guidelines and open one infant classroom this summer.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Stay well and take care.

Regards, Claire

Free Books!

This month we will be featuring books about ...

- Week 1 –Animals
- Week 2 – Animals/ Nature
- Week 3 – Food/ Community
- Week 4 –Alphabet/ numbers/ Directions/ Shapes

Procedure for free books

1. Please put on gloves.
2. Pick books.
3. Have fun reading!

Families are free to take as many books as they wish!

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

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Assistant Director,
Curriculum Development

Ms. Eileen Quinn
Program Coordinator

Ms. Josie Boyle
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Ms. Anais Servis
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UNLV/CSUN Preschool HEAD TEACHING STAFF

Ms. Ruxandra Draia-Hernandez

Ms. Sharmaine Quimsing

Ms. Laura Callihan

Ms. Kimberly Crossley

Ms. Danielle Rice

Ms. Turia Stewart

Ms. Shin Silver

Ms. Elizabeth Sanchez-Walker

Ms. Shelae Hubbard

Ms. Yamila DeOliveira

Mr. Carl Esteban

Ms. Leilani Blanche CCSD

Ms. Kristen Wildung - CCSD

Ms. Linsey Coen - CCSD

Ms. Sandy Contreras - CCSD

MS. Kenzie Manns- Richesson

CCSD

Local Events!



Your family can enjoy all the inspiring exhibits the Discovery Children's Museum has to offer by visiting in-person or by virtual tour from the comfort of your home!

<https://www.discoverykidslv.org/visit/buy-tickets>

<https://www.discoverykidslv.org/visit/virtual-tour>



The Las Vegas Natural History Museum offers guided tours and virtual field trips.

<https://www.lvnhm.org/exhibits>

*You may need to refresh page after choosing the exhibit to get to the scheduling calendar.

Upcoming Events:

February 11 – Family Night: Family Literacy Night at 6:30 pm (virtual)

February 12 – Preschool CLOSED for Professional Development Day

February 15 – Preschool CLOSED for President's Day Holiday

February 22 to 26 – School Portraits

Classrooms' Monthly Focus

Caterpillars – Dr. Seuss/Friendship

Hearts – Friendship

Ladybugs – Persuasiveness

Butterflies – Dr. Seuss/Mo Willems/Fairytales

Bumble Bees – Fairytales

Rainbows – Fairytales & Literacy

Sea Turtles – Friendship

Dolphins - Friendship



National Association for the Education of Young Children

**NEVADA QRIS FIVE STAR
SCHOOL**



UNLV/CSUN is a Fully Inclusive Preschool

Community Collaboration: The Preschool has a full time agreement with Clark County School District for children with disabilities ages 3-5 who have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) and receive inclusive special education services in the regular classroom. This agreement has been in action for more than 20 years. Our CCSD services will be returning on site March 1 according to CCSD updates. We are so happy to see most of our children receiving services and CCSD staff back on site.

Mission Statement:

The mission of the UNLV/CSUN Preschool is one of teaching, training and research. The preschool provides a model inclusive early childhood education program that serves children (six weeks to five years of age) of students, faculty, staff and the surrounding campus community. As the field of Early Childhood Care and Education evolves to meet the growing needs of today's young children and their families, UNLV/CSUN Preschool will continue to play a leadership role in teaching young children, training future educators, and research at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

Vision Statement:

The UNLV/CSUN Preschool celebrates the diversity of family culture, language, and tradition. We value the partnerships that support curriculum adaptations and developmentally appropriate inclusive practice for each child. We recognize the importance of providing children with rich and varied preschool experience that honors each family system and builds a strong foundation for the future. Please share your family culture, language and traditions with us.

School Fact: Did you know?

In 2004, assemblage STUDIO was presented the Merit Award for the design of the University of Nevada Las Vegas Lynn Bennett Early Childhood Education Center by the American Institute of Architects Nevada. The concept was playfulness and natural light; hence, our preschool's many windows and courtyards!



Emergency Management Plan

The UNLV/CSUN Preschool conducts fire drills and shelter in place drills throughout the year. A complete emergency management plan is updated annually and will be available for you to review on site or through this link that will be updated this week.

[https:// www. unlv. edu/ preschool/ parent - resources](https://www.unlv.edu/preschool/parent-resources)

Health Notes to Families: NUT FREE ZONE:
We promote a Nut Free environment at the UNLV/CSUN Preschool. All of our classroom snack items are nut-free. Due to the fact that families pack lunches, we cannot guarantee an absolute nut-free zone across campus. Please consider and support our promotion of a nut-free zone as you pack lunches and bring snacks for classroom events. It definitely takes a collaborative effort on site. One great substitute for those peanut butter lovers is **sunflower butter**. It tastes like peanut butter. Please notify administration and the teacher if your child has a nut or any other allergy. An Individual Health Plan will be completed for your child.

Nutritious Recipe:

Healthy Muffins for Kids (vegan, paleo, gluten-free)

♥♥♥♥♥

Prep Time: 15 min Cook Time: 30 min Ready in: 45 min

Yield: 24 mini muffins

Ingredients

- 1/2 cup (113 grams) coconut oil, melted or at least very soft (not hard and solid)
- 170 grams (without the peel) very ripe banana (this is 3/4 cup puree or about 1 1/2 medium bananas but please weigh it!)
- 1 1/2 cups (210 grams) raw chopped sweet potato or cooked sweet potato
- 1 1/2 teaspoons apple cider vinegar, white vinegar or lemon juice
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla
- 6 tablespoons (45 grams) tapioca flour / starch
- 6 tablespoons (48 grams) coconut flour
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 3/4 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/4 teaspoons salt

Directions

Preheat the oven to 350 °F (175°C) and line a mini muffin tin with 24 muffin liners. Silicone or waxed work best. If using cooked sweet potato, skip food processor step . In a large bowl, mash the bananas and sweet potato together until pureed. Then stir in the coconut oil. If using raw sweet potato: In a small food processor or a small jar of a high-speed blender at high speed. Pour into a large bowl and stir in the vinegar and vanilla. In a medium bowl, stir together the remaining ingredients. Add this to the wet mix and stir just until combined. Fill the liners full and bake for 30 minutes or until they're no longer squishy and seem firm. ENJOY after 5 min.