

# Welcome to the Moose Pre-K Classroom

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ADVICE FROM A

MOOSE!

THINK BIG



HOLD YOUR HEAD UP HIGH



STAY ON TRACK



IT'S OK TO BE A LITTLE WILD!



# Introducing Your Pre-K Moose Teachers



Ms. Kara Pendergrass – Taylor  
8:00 a. m. -1:30 p.m.  
2:30 p.m. – 5:00 P.M.

Hi, I'm a Moose teacher also. I have been teaching at Abiding love for 20 years, and I even went here as a child. I enjoy crafts and spending time with my family. I love being around their smiling faces and getting their hugs.



Ms. Debbie C. Smith  
Lead Teacher  
6:40 a. m. – 2:40 p.m.

Email:

Hello, I'm your Moose Pre-K teacher. I have been at Abiding Love for 19 years and have taught for 40 years. I have my Child Development Associate Credential for preschool. I love teaching and experiencing the excitement on their faces when they learn something new.



Ms. Isiz Seijas  
1:30 p. m. – 6:00 p. m.  
Good Afternoon, I'm am so excited to be a Moose teacher. This is my second year at Abiding Love. I love teaching children, because I love their energy, laughter and playing with them..

# What to expect from your Moose

Your 4-year-old will be full of energy, talkative and curious.

He's eager to show you what he can do, and you will both be excited by his accomplishments. He constantly test his environment and will alternate between feelings of security and insecurity. Your 4-year-old may also be a bossy little one who feels the need to be in charge. You will experience emotional highs and lows with this age, and each day will be a new challenge - for both of you.

These are all developmentally appropriate behaviors. We will let you know if we have any concerns about your Moose's day.

## How we learn

We discover what the children are captivated by and develop a well-planned curriculum around what is most meaningful. You may hear this described as an "emergent approach."

We are excited to experience the skills and concepts that your Moose is developmentally ready to explore.

Through this knowledge, and through careful observation of your child's individual learning styles, we will construct a multi-faceted curriculum to foster each area of development.

Exploration will be organized around themes such as the people in our community, our families, our world around us, or even something as random as footprints

## Moose Can (And Want To)

Walk into and out of the building on their own 2 feet!

Say a quick goodbye!

Be independent!

Respect our school space, inside and out!

Speak kindly to everyone!

Follow the safety rules before and after School!

Carry their own lunch and water bottle!





## Moose Parents Will

Respect our growing independence  
Keep us apprised of important events in your life!  
**RESPECT ALL CHILDREN AND FAMILIES!**  
Say a quick goodbye!



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## Moose Guidance Philosophies

The behavior management program in our classroom is grounded in the philosophies and principles outlined in Conscious Discipline by Becky Bailey.

Set and achieve goals together...despite obstacles

Manage emotions instead of acting out

Set personal boundaries to encourage mutual respect

Resolve conflict in away that creates closer relationships

Children respond best to positive guidance, consistent rules, and reinforcement of appropriate behavior. We do this by telling our Moose what we would like them to do ( instead of what not to do), giving choices, and using logical consequences to actions. Your child will also be encouraged to solve their own problems, instead of having an adult do it for them. These guidance techniques will help your Moose become more independent.

## **Pick Up and Drop Off**

Please let the office know if there will be changes in your drop-off or pick-up schedule.

Keep your good-byes quick, positive and consistent.

While morning conversations will be quick, please let us know if there are any pick-up changes or other things that we NEED to know to make the day successful.

**BE ON TIME!** Moose will not be admitted after 9:30 a.m. for any reason.

Be a present parent with a smile.

**WE UNDERSTAND THAT EVERYONE IS BUSY.  
FOR THE SAFETY OF ALL CHILDREN, CELL  
PHONES ARE NOT ALLOWED DURING DROP-  
OFF AND PICK-UPS.**



## **Handle more responsibilities at school and at home!**

Learning self-help skills is an important factor in the development of self-confidence and a sense of responsibility. This contributes to high self-esteem. Children are expected to be able to take care of toileting on their own. This includes when given medicine to make them go to the bathroom. It will save you a phone call. Please help your child to help himself. Show your child how to do things, assisting only when you know he is physically unable. Allow and encourage him in his own accomplishments.

( This is not to say we will not help when needed.)

**NEVER HELP A CHILD WITH A TASK AT WHICH HE FEELS HE CAN SUCCEED.** Maria Montessori



We understand that this is a transition year for you and your Moose.  
We are here to cheer you on...every step of the way!





## **Our Routine**

*Arrival, exploration of centers*

*Outdoor exploration*

*Morning Meeting*

*(Chapel Story, Helpers and Pledge)*

*Investigate Centers*

*(Morning Snack, Journals)*

*Story Time and Literacy extensions*

*Small Group and Creativity*

*Music and Math*

*Lunch*

*Rest (Quiet Time)*

*Afternoon Snack*

*Outdoor exploration*

*Exploration of Indoor Centers*

*Open Creativity*

*Our Day Is Done.*

*Goodbye!*



## **What your Moose will Need for a Fabulous Day at School Backpack**



Each child will need to bring a backpack to school. We have found that it helps them with carrying out all their artwork. It also helps us in getting things home on Friday. Plus, it is getting them ready for Kindergarten.

### **A water bottle**

We will need a water bottle with a lid that is easy to open and close every day.

### **A lunchbox**

Please send food in containers that are easy to open and close. We will encourage your child to set up and clean up their own lunches everyday.

**We will not heat up lunches.**

### **Tennis shoes**

Tennis shoes are the best shoes for a pea gravel, balance beam, running, jumping great day!

### **Extra clothes**

Life happens. Accidents happen. Please send 1 COMPLETE set of extra clothes (including socks) in a Ziplock bag with your child's name on them.

### **Nap bedding**

Please provide a crib sheet, a blanket (no bed rolls, due to storage space, please). They may bring a small lovely for rest time. (only). Everything must fit in their cubbies and will go home every Friday to be washed and returned on Monday.

## Communications

Please join both the Center's closed Facebook page:

[Abiding Love Lutheran Children's Center](#)

For center announcements, parent workshop, sign-ups and other important information.

And

[Abidinglove2021-2022moosepre-k](#)

For classroom announcements, classroom updates and fun pictures from our days.

**Do you have questions?**

**Email us: [abidinglovemooseprek@gmail.com](mailto:abidinglovemooseprek@gmail.com)**

Birthday Celebrations:

Turning 5 is a BIG deal and we look forward to celebrating with your Moose.

We will have a celebration in the classroom for your Moose.

Food Treats and Balloons will not be allowed.

Thank you in advance for your understanding and cooperation.



## Illness

**Your child must be well enough to participate in all activities.**

**We reserve the right to send children home if we are concerned about their health.**

**Please refer to the illness policies and procedures in the parent handbook. It can be found on the center's website**

*<http://www.allcc.org/>*

**We are looking forward to working with each child and are excited to be a part of their growth and development. We want you and your child to love and feel good about our class.**

**If you ever have any questions or concerns, please leave us a note, send an email or set up a conference. If we all work together, your child will have an enjoyable and fantastic year.**



## Welcome Moose Letter



Welcome to our class! The Pre-K school experience marks an important milestone in your child's development by building a strong foundation for future social and academic success.

This year will be filled with exciting activities for curious, creative learners. We will learn our letters, read books, and write books, and write stories. We will learn about number concepts, counting, and logical thinking in math. We will even become young scientists! Every day, we will focus on developing language and communication skills as well as cooperating and working together.

We are especially excited about our curriculum, a blend of emergent curriculum, Bid Day for Pre-K, Handwriting without Tears, and the Texas School Ready guidelines! Every few weeks will bring us a new theme that integrates what children are learning in all the subject areas. Our curriculum is also designed for children to develop all the essential skills they will need for kindergarten, which is how we will benchmark progress throughout the year and share with you through our parent/teacher conferences which are held twice a year. One is in October, where we set our goals for the year. The other conference is in March, where we see how they have progressed, and I give you some characteristics we see in your child and what type of teacher we feel suits your child and their needs.

Because it is important for children to make connections between home and school, we will provide you with information about what your child is learning every step of the way.

Although it is up to your child as to how much information is consumed, our goal is to stimulate their learning experiences and create a fun learning environment. We hop that by working together we can make this a positive learning experience for you and your child.

Children's art projects will be placed in their backpacks when they are ready to go home. Please be sure to check your child's backpack daily to monitor his/her progress. Children love to share their artwork with others, it forms a sense of pride.



# This year we will continue to work on these Key Learning Milestones:



## Approaches To Learning:

## Social and Emotional

## Language Development And Communication

- Participates in individual and group play
- Demonstrates confidence in their abilities and expresses pride in their accomplishments
- Understanding of rules and routines
- Can clearly express feelings, needs, and opinions
- Demonstrates empathy and caring for others
- Takes turns during activities
- Participates in the care of learning environment

- Initiates play with peers
- Show interests in learning by participating
- Invests time in an activity despite distractions
- Attempts to resolve conflicts
- Make real world connections in the classroom

- Follows directions that involve multiple steps
- Waits and takes turns during conversations
- Communicates clearly
- Initiates conversations with adults and children



## Physical Health and Development

Uses scissors properly

Holds pencil correctly

Uses hand – eye coordination for fine motor tasks

Demonstrates body and space awareness

Demonstrates coordination and balance

Uses materials safely and appropriately

Performs self – care skills

Discriminates between senses

## Literacy

Writes own name

Can identify letter sounds

Can identify letter names

Able to sit and listen to a story

Retells part of a story

Recognizes own name

## Creativity

Engages in dramatic play

Participates in musical experiences

Demonstrates care in art projects

Uses a variety of tools to express ideas

Shows respect for others work





## Math

Counts to 10

Knows colors

Know Shapes

Recognizes numerals to 10

Writes numerals 1 – 10

Sorts objects by color, shape and size

Uses and understands positional language

Groups similar objects into simple categories

## Science

Makes observations and predictions.

Investigates cause and effects relationships.

