Did you know quality childhood education from an early age offers significant educational and socio-emotional benefits that continue into adulthood? Children who have attended a high-quality preschool are more likely to have better math and English performance and have a greater likelihood of enrolling in college. The City of West Sacramento is dedicated to providing high-quality preschools for all of their residents. All of the Home Run preschools go through rigorous quality assessments, and have access to health screenings and professional development opportunities through Yolo Quality Counts.

In the 2018-2019 school year our staff clocked in a total of 1,506 professional development hours. These trainings will help improve the quality of their classrooms as well as increase the professional capacity of the staff in Early Childhood Education.

Students who graduate from a certified high-quality preschool get a College Savings Account with a $50 seed deposit. Another $220 in matching funds is available to help you move towards your monthly savings goals. Learn more about College Savings Accounts in
### IMPACT

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<th>425</th>
<th>18</th>
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<td>GRADIUNATES</td>
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In 2019 West Sacramento’s high quality preschools had 425 graduates.

Once these students sign up for kindergarten in Washington Unified School District, they will qualify for a College Savings Account!

This comes along with a $50 seed deposit and more financial incentives.

We have 18 certified high quality preschools in West Sacramento. High quality programs ensure that our children have a high quality education that will help prepare them for their future.

Find a program that is right for your child! Full time, part time, in home family childcare, public or private.

Yolo Quality Counts participants clocked in 1,506 hours of professional development training outside of their normal work hours.

These hands on trainings included topics like improving environmental and teaching strategies, as well as current trends and techniques that help our children thrive.

### MEET OUR HIGH QUALITY PRESCHOOLS

#### JAMES MARSHALL PARENT PARTICIPATION PRESCHOOL

James Marshall Parent Nursery School (JMPNS) has been around for 65 years and is the only educational cooperative in West Sacramento. Because of the

#### WUSD STATE PRESCHOOL

Washington Unified State District has four elementary schools with preschool sites that fosters engaged learning experiences a culture of innovation, and a community that promotes family involvement.

#### ITSY BITSY PRESCHOOL

Itsy Bitsy Preschool a dual immersion Spanish preschool. Learning a language early encourages children to adapt to new customs and norms, improves memory and makes it easier for them to learn a third
parent participatory aspect, JMPNS is known as being one of the most affordable preschools in the area.

Director Erin Hinton says, “This does not reflect our quality, but rather the time and energy investment parents are willing to put instead of a monetary invest in their child’s future. We believe that parents are the child’s first and most important teachers. JMPNS provides an opportunity for parents and formal teachers to come together to guide a child’s early learning experience.”

To enroll at JMPNS, fill out an application at https://www.jmpns.org/

Elkhorn Village Preschool, Riverbank Preschool, Stonegate Preschool, and Westfield Preschool all have met and/or exceeded standards to be certified high-quality. State preschools provide a warm, friendly environment where not only can children feel secure, but also have various opportunities to interact with others, develop positive self-esteem, and learn to become independent.

Half-day programs are available to income qualifying families from 8AM-11AM and 12PM-3PM. To learn more about admission requirements, visit http://wsac.city/WUSDPreschools.

Lilia Guerrero, Itsy Bitsy’s owner and head teacher, has over 30 years of experience working with children and loves to encourage creativity and imagination. At Itsy Bitsy Preschool students are introduced to Spanish in a fun and exciting way. Children get to develop creative thinking and imagination all through story telling.

Lilia says, “I’m happy that I can provide my students with the opportunity to become bilingual and be able to see their expressions when they learn something new.”

Itsy Bitsy Preschool can be contacted at 916-600-7715 or emailed at gwlilia@aol.com

HIVE ACADEMY PRESCHOOL

HIVE Academy, previously known as Little Busy Bees, has been helping children master fine motor skills for 11 years through the foundation of Health & Wellness, Intellect, Values, and Excellence.

Children get to experience creative opportunities through outdoor activities, processed group art, and sensory play. Owner, ms. Stefanie ensures graduates are more than prepared to transition into kindergarten due to the four-days a week Frontline Phonics Program.

“Success looks different for each one of our children. Success for one might be blending their sounds while another might be expressing their needs. Seeing them overcome obstacles or do something new is just awesome.”

To schedule a tour or learn more about full and part-time preschool and childcare, visit Hive Academy Preschool’s website.

MILE PRESCHOOL #1

“Success for my students is when they can communicate their emotions for one another and find solutions.

Mile Preschool LLC has been dedicated in providing programming that supports children’s social emotional health since 2005. Now almost 15 years later, they have five different locations in West Sacramento.

Owner and Director Janice Villanueva says, “We work together as an entirety with staff meetings and celebrations.” She continues, “serving the community by providing solid foundations through the children is what I love most about my job.”

Mile Preschool provides a curriculum that revolves around multi-sensory. Activities such as; music and movement, and social emotional puppet shows helps children build interpersonal relations and self-recognize their emotions.

To learn about the five different Mile locations visit their website.

https://www.milepreschool.com/
ALICE NORMAN HEAD START PRESCHOOL

All of West Sacramento's Head Start Preschools are part of Home Run's high-quality preschool program. The Head Start program serves children from 0-5 years old and is designed for low income families.

These programs are imperative in helping all families access high quality education.

Alyce Norman Preschool and Head Start at Early College Prep Charter are two out of eighteen Home Run preschools that have exceeded quality, education standards. They work alongside families to utilize family strengths in helping them achieve their goals.

Head Start preschools foster growth and development by involving the child's entire family in all aspects of programming children’s activities and policy decisions.

To learn about the history of Head Start in 5 minutes, the video below shows a great overview. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=StKPrSrWroA or visit https://wsac.city/AboutHeadStart

BRIGHT BEGINNINGS PRESCHOOL

Bright Beginnings is one of our high quality preschools and has been in business for 13 years. They offer multiple play based activities that includes writing with shaving cream, nature walks, and Martial Arts safety training.

Further describing what the preschool offers, (insert position) Amy says, “We have community helpers that visit our children monthly such as Firefighters, Dentists, Amazing Animal World, and many others.”

When asked what she loves most about her job, Amy says, “I love interacting with the children and teaching them new things! The proud look on their faces when they accomplish something new is priceless.”

She continues, “of all the funny things they say and do, I could literally write a book!”

To enroll your child in Bright Beginnings Child Care and Preschool or receive more information, email Amy at brightbeginningsws@gmail.com

WASHINGTON UNIFIED SPECIAL EDUCATION PRESCHOOL

Special education is not seen as a “place” or “destination”, rather it is a set of services that help a child thrive and succeed. One of these destinations includes Washington Unified School District’s Special Education Preschool located at Elkhorn Elementary.

Hugh Boyenga, is one of three Special Education teachers at Elkhorn State Preschool. He says, “Our goal is to create a developmentally appropriate space that can meet the needs of our diverse students... that
come from all over the West Sacramento community. We want to create a bridge from where the students are at to where they need to be ... as they grow and develop skills."

Special Education services are free of charge and are available to eligible children from age three to five who have an eligible disability. Families can determine their child's eligibility from tests, observations, and interviews.

Their goal is to partner with families regarding individual needs of children to educate them in their neighboring schools with their peers and in a general education setting to the greatest extent possible.

"Each student has an individualized education plan (IEP) that includes goals specific to their needs. We measure their progress towards these goals throughout the year. Because of our student's needs we have collaborative teams that may include Speech and Language Pathologist, Occupational Therapist, Physical Therapist, School Nurse, School Psychologist, and some cases Vision and Hearing Specialists. Together we track our student's progress."

For more information, Special Services can be contacted at 916-375-7600 or visited at https://wsac.city/SpecialServices

**STORYBOOK COTTAGE**

Storybook Cottage has been an established Christian-based preschool for 17 years where they strive to make a positive contribution to the development of every child's full potential.

Some of the educator’s favorite activities include finger painting and playing in the Dramatic Playroom. This allows children to use their creativity and imagination to learn empathy by playing out fun scenarios with their peers in class.

Assistant Director, Brittny and two other childhood educators describe success for their students as, "Accomplishing their goals, growing and moving up to the big kid class, and never giving up."

To enroll or set up a tour, visit http://www.storybookcottagepreschool.com/

**DISCOVERY PRESCHOOL**

Discovery Preschool has been promoting school readiness and education through utilizing research-based, developmentally appropriate curriculum for 20 years. By having a spacious and park-like backyard, all indoor activities can easily be taught in an outdoor classroom setting.

"Smiling faces and happy children! When children enter and exit with big smiles, and tell me they love coming to school, that's when I know I am succeeding in my job and there is no better feeling in the world."

To receive more information about enrollment and rates, email elizabethh@cityofwestsacramento.org or call 916-371-1344.

**PORTSIDE MONTESSORI**
The Montessori Method allows children to learn through child centered activities that are highly individualized so children can learn at their own pace. This method helps children learn to take care of themselves and others.

Portside Montessori has been teaching practical life curriculum for 11 years. Children experience the act of real tasks through eating and cleaning to encourage independence, coordination, and concentration.

Director, Rachel Delgado says, “I love watching the kiddos take in so much info from their lessons where they are always thriving in their own way.”

Portside Montessori also provides four age appropriate classrooms with many outside activities for families to meet and socialize. “It’s so great to see parents be involved and give us the opportunity to care for their little ones”, says Rachel.

Portside Montessori offers tours of the facility and application can be found at http://www.portsidemontessori.com/home.html.

WONDERLAND PRESCHOOL

Wonderland Preschool and Childcare has been in operation for 17 years and operates as an extended family for their students.

Wonderland offers a trilingual curriculum where children are exposed to music, reading, and other daily activities in Spanish, English and American Sign Language. Each class has two teachers where one of them teaches the students in the two additional languages.

Owner, Paul Martinez says, “The best part of our job is watching children apply the knowledge they have been taught to solve similar and new issues they come across.” He continues, “when we see our students engage in mindful leaders who are in touch with their emotional intelligence among their peers in and out of school, that is when we consider ourselves as successful.”

In addition to a trilingual program, Wonderland provides hands on learning, a food program, transportation to local schools, and much more!

To begin the enrollment process or request a tour, call (916)372-4843 and don’t forget to check out the website at https://www.wonderland---preschool.com/.

SHORES OF HOPE STATE PRESCHOOL

Shores of Hope Child Development provides children with a wide range of activities designed to help them develop while embracing play as the core of all learning. Their learning community is a place where children and educators come together to learn

LEARNING LADDERS
from one another in order to provide opportunities to explore, hypothesize, make mistakes, and honor successes.

Their Director, Laurie, has been an Early Childhood Educator for 45 years.

She says, “The aim of the program is to respond to the needs of every child as s/he develops awareness of the world and curiosity for learning. Each classroom provides materials and activities in the areas of social/emotional learning, fine and gross motor development, self-help skills, and much more.”

She continues by describing success for her students as, “having confidence to solve problems, understand concepts, and have a strong sense of self-worth.”

Besides their state ran preschool, Shores of Hope is helping reverse the negative consequences of economic and social misfortune. This includes assisting families with transitional housing, transportation and food security.

Each of their programs help strengthen the entire family by equipping families with important life skills and care they need to establish and implement a healthy lifestyle.

To arrange a tour at the center, call 916-760-4480.

A close relationship between the child and the caregiver/teacher is the best way to nourish the child’s growing brain. West Sacramento Home Run ensures all its 18 high-quality preschools provide their students with a safe and effective teacher-child interaction by having them meet and/or exceed quality standards.

Located across from City Hall, Learning Ladder has been providing their students with high-quality education for over 10 years. Learning Ladder Preschool and Childcare Center serves children from 3 to 5 years of age and offers a full-day program with committed teachers who love to stay fluent in their personal growth of child development.

Site Supervisor, Whitney Brown says, "What makes Learning Ladder so special is the commitment from all the teachers. I just love how we can impact lives in the community through early education programs and help children not only feel liberated to express themselves, but also develop compassion for the world around them."

To enroll your child at Learning Ladder Preschool, schedule a tour with Whitney by contacting (916)617-5317 or visit their website at http://wsac.city/LearningLadder

WANT TO BECOME A CERTIFIED HIGH QUALITY PRESCHOOL?

Becoming a certified preschool has many benefits. These include:

- $500 stipend for classroom materials and supplies for those that go through the Quality Rating System process.
- Individualized coaching to help improve the quality of your classroom/site.
- Access to professional development opportunities.
- Individual stipends up to $600 a fiscal year.
- Support and camaraderie by fellow peers in Early Childhood Education.
- Free advertising through the West Sacramento Home Run.

For more information on how to become a high quality preschool contact Justine Jimenez at justinej@cityofwestsacramento.org

This holiday season Americans are expected to spend $700 on holiday gifts and goodies. Take a
look at how some West Sacramento grandparents are looking to split up their holiday spending so they can set their grandchildren up for financial freedom.

Open a West Sacramento Home Run Savings Account today! Or visit www.wshomerun.com