



Monthly Notes



Find the lyrics for the Golden Garden Spider song on page 31

May 2025

We like the warm weather! And your little butterflies are having so much fun in the sun. Along with the arrival of butterfly wings for wearing outside, we got magic wands and matchbox cars! The cars have been really fun as they fit into the ramps and kids are loving running them down the slide.

Lunchtime today was full of thank yous for our meal—thank you earth, sun, trees and people at the tables! It is so fun to see and hear kids extending and applying our little rituals in caring ways.

2025-2026 School Year

When ICSD publishes their calendar for next year, we plan ahead too. The WHE calendar includes a couple of changes to the ICSD calendar that are highlighted at the bottom our policies page.

This newsletter contains documents for the 2025-2026 year including:

- WHE Calendar
- WHE 2025-26 Tuition & Enrollment Policies

...and a current class list!

May Holidays

5/26 Memorial Day

May						
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	19		20	21	22	23
	26		27	28	29	30

Family Gathering

Who will be our planner this month?

For new families, we like to rotate the parent support months with a family gathering month.

We have been percolating an idea of going on the Teal boat together for July. Family friendly boat excursion? Yes, please!

Let us know if you have an idea for May or want to help with July!

Parenting Styles

The way we parent not only influences our child's sense of self, it influences our relationship with them and builds a foundation for how they relate to others and the

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world around them. If you have ever said something like, "I'm never going to be like my parents!" you may be reflecting on the way they interacted with you and how it made you feel.

In her article, What is your parenting styles, and why does it matter?

Lauren Pardee notes that parenting styles "can affect everything from your child's self-esteem to their academic success" and that "the way you interact with your child—and how you discipline them—will influence them for the rest of their life."

Parenting styles are typically referred to as

authoritarian (brickwall), authoritative (backbone) or permissive (jellyfish), Lauren Pardee adds neglectful to her list.

An example of how parenting styles comes into play is when we set boundaries. Even though we know boundaries are important, when we consider the research on how our interactions impact our child's sense of self worth, we might find it a little more important find a backbone.

We must find our limits: in fact authoritarian (brickwall) parenting makes children feel more valued than permissive parenting—and certainly more valued than when in a family with uninvolved parent(s). Again, the role of attention is so important. Children who receive attention feel loved.

Authoritarian	Focus on obedience, punishment over discipline	Authoritative	Create positive relationship, enforce rules
		Ê	
Permissive	Don't enforce rules, 'kids will be kids'	Uninvolved	Provide little guidance, nurturing, or attention

	JELLYFISH	BACKBONE	BRICKWALL
What are the rules like?	-No recognizable structure, rules, or guidelines	-Clear -Simple	-Rigid -Strict -Unyielding
What types of discipline or punishments are used?	-Bribing -Doing nothing -Pleading -Threatening -Waiting -Yielding	-Asserting messages -Conflict Resolution -Consequences -Family meetings -Negotiation -Requesting	-Bribing -Ordering -Punishing -Rewarding -Threatening -Yelling
What are the effects on the child?	-Becomes self-centered -Develops little self-control -Easily led by peers	-Develops self-discipline -Is able to focus on I the needs of the group	-Develops little self-control -Learns to obey out of fear -Often out of control in absence of parents
Does the parent demand a lot from the child?	-No. They are lenient and do not require mature behavior.	-Yes, They require their children to be responsible and self- regulated.	-Yes. They require and expect obedience.
Is the parent responsive to the child?	 -Yes. They show parental warmth and interest in their children. 	-Yes. They show parental warmth and interest in their children.	-No. They are not attuned to their children's special needs and interests.
What is the role of the parent?	-Bystander	-Leader, guide	-The "boss"
Food for Thought: What do you think the quality of the child-parent relationship is like?			
	JELLYFISH	BACKBONE	BRICKWALL

Joshua Seong

Source: Information in this grid comes from Kids are Worth It, Barbara Coloroso.

May Curriculum

Primary Themes

- More gardening, more planting!
- What Plants Need
- Parts of animals and plants
- Continents, flags and flag making
- "Tap Tap"
- Geoboard
- Geometric manipulative
- Introducing games

Activities

- Beading, sewing
- Butterfly painting
- Wings to wear!
- Care of environment: pouring, sweeping
- Elementary movements
- Sequencing
- Grace and courtesy
- Counting/number games







- The Friend Ship (Kat Yeh)
- Bear's New Friend (Karma Wilson)
- The Boy Who Invented the Popsicle
- T is for Tugboat
- You are a Story (Bob Raczka)
- Firefighter's Handbook
- Curious George ++++

Songs

- Robin Red Breast
- Mockingbird Hill
- The Earth is Good to Me
- Bean Song
- Golden Garden Spider
- Oats, Peas, Beans and Barley Grow
- Grey Squirrel
- I Like the Flowers, I Like the Daffodils...
- Back of a Crocodile



Golden Garden Spider

She's a golden garden spider
One day I sat beside her
She looked at me,
and this is what she said:
I'm a golden garden spider
A spinner not a fighter
Come close to me
and watch me spin my web.





Tuition & Enrollment Policies 2025-2026





Monthly Tuition

(Enrollment limited to full-time 8:30am-4:30pm, M-F)

\$1,625

Annual Materials fee

\$ 275

Due at time of enrollment, billed annually in September

- · Rates averaged over the year, for equal monthly payments, regardless of scheduled holidays
- 30 days' notice required to terminate contracts
- Limited early care (8-8:30am M-F) by arrangement \$15/day; \$275/month - 5 days/week

The following is required to secure enrollment

- 1) Non-refundable Last month's deposit, applied to last month of care
- 2) Non-refundable annual materials fee

WHE Provides	Families Provide
 Nurturing, responsive care 	Rest mat or blanket
 Prepared environment 	Indoor shoes
 Healthy vegetarian meals/snacks 	Diapers, diaper cream
 Parent support 	 Families provide diapering wipes,
 Sunscreen, lotion, insect spray 	sunscreen and general lotion if child needs
First aid supplies	specific different items than
Water-based disposable wipes	we offer.

WHE follows the ICSD school calendar with the following adaptations:

ADDITIONAL DAYS WHE IS OPEN

- # ICSD Parent/Teacher Conference days, Superintendent, and Professional Learning Community days
- # 9/23/2025 Rosh Hashanah
- # 10/2/2025 Recess Day
- # 3/20/2026 Eid al-Fitr

ADDITIONAL DAYS WHE IS CLOSED

- # 12/22 & 12/23/2025 Winter Break
- # 5/22 & 5/25/2026 Memorial Day
- # 7/3/2026 Independence Day
- # 8/3-8/7/2026 Summer break

Additional enrollment policies including payment deadlines, late fees, absences for personal illness and other reasons are included in enrollment contract. Effective 09.01.2025-08.31.2026. Rev. 4.29.2025



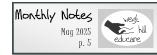




West Hill Educare Calendar 2025-2026



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Labor Day Recess 8/29 & 9/1

9/22-9/24 Rosh Hashanah OPEN

	October	r			
	м	Т	W	Th	F
10/2 Yom Kippur OPEN			1	2	3
10/6-13 Sukkot OPEN	6	7	8	9	10
10/13 Indigenous People's Day	13	14	15	16	17
10/20 Diwali Festival	20	21	22	23	24

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January

September					
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4/1-4/3 Spring Recess

3/1-19 Ramadan cont.

3/20 Eid al-Fitr OPEN

3/30 & 3/31 Spring Recess

4/1-9 Passover 4/3Good Friday 4/5 Easter 4/12 Orthodox Easter

7	
14	
21	

28

May					
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5/22 &
5/25 Memorial Day Rece
5/21-23 Shavuot &
5/26-27 Eid al-Adha

emb	er			
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June				
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22	23	24	25	26
29	30			

12/26-1/1 Kwanzaa Winter Recess 12/22-1/2

Winter Recess 12/22-1/2

12/25-1/2 Hannukkah

12/25 Christmas

11/5 Guy Fawkes Day

11/11 Veterans Day

11/26-28 Thanksgiving

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12	13	14	15	16
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July				
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27	28	29	30	31

7/	3 H	oli	da	٧s

1/19 Martin Luther King, Jr.
Burns Night (1/25)

2/17 Lunar New Year

Mid-Winter Recess 2/16-2/20 2/17-28 Ramadan

Februar	у			
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August				
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31				

8/3-8/7 Summer Break

(9/7/2026 Labor Day)

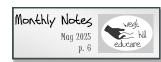
year begins

PLEASE NOTE: WHE remains open on parent/teacher conference days, superintendent and









Contact Information

West Hill Educare

Cell Phone: 831.465.4518, texting ok

Please use this number to contact us as soon as you know if your child will be absent, as child absences may affect staffing needs.

westhilleducare@gmail.com

310 Richard Place, Ithaca, NY 14850

In case of emergency, KC can be reached at 831.331.6929

Class List

(05/01/2025)

Child's Name	D.O.B.	Parents	Address	Phone	E-mail
Ansel Karim-Smith	12/19/2021	Sabrina Karim &	213 Wood St.	970-310-4793	smk349@cornell.edu
		Josh Smith	Ithaca, NY 14850	470-585-5818	jes546@cornell.edu
Austin Gaige	12/7/2021	Maria &	3726 County Rte 6	917-331-2240	mvf629@gmail.com
		Brandon Gaige	(Macintyre Road)	607-483-9815	
			Alpine, NY 14805		
Cas Carvallo-Ray	02/02/2072	Sefora Ray &	209 Rachel Carson Way	831-	seforaray@gmail.com
		JP Carvallo	Ithaca, NY 14850	510-467-2954	jpcarbod@gmail.com
Kata Peisahovitch	02/05/2022	Herianna Valenzuela &	203 Madison St.	520-440-0043	heriannavalenzuela@gmail.com
		Jason Peisahovitch	Ithaca, NY 14850		
Norie Balog-Way	09/12/2021 Simone &	Simone &	227 S. Albany St.	303-579-3550	s.balogway@gmail.com
		Dominic Balog-Way	Ithaca, NY 14850	202-855-4202	
Shiloh Evans	07/10/2022	Caitlin Eger &		303-550-1745	cait.eger@gmail.com
		Tom Evans	Ithaca, NY 14850		
Sybil Lynch	06/16/2021	Rachael &	37 Whig St.	607-339-8837	Rkoppel5@gmail.com
		Jimmy Lynch	Trumansburg, NY 14886	845-270-1175	James.lynch.23@gmail.com
Veda Greig Ramanujan	12/18/2021	Krishna	138 Belle School Rd.	607-339-9229	krishnaramanujan@gmail.com
		Ramanujan	Brooktondale, NY 14817		
Zeffie McCasey	01/15/2022	01/15/2022 Lauretta Dolch &	500 Elm St.	607-342-1213	ljd62@cornell.edu
		Indi McCasey	Ithaca, NY 14850	510-779-4237	indiflyer@gmail.com