

**CITY OF SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM**

DATE: August 15, 2024

TO: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Councilmembers

FROM: Greg Mediati, Director of Parks and Recreation

SUBJECT: Parks and Recreation Department Update

Classes Program Updates

Summer Movie Night in the Park: Trolls Band Together



We invite you to join the Parks and Recreation team at next summer's Movie Night in the Park. Back by popular demand, the next movie night will take place at the Martin Elementary School ballfield on Friday, August 16. Pre-film activities will include karaoke, a Parks and Recreation information table, and a pop-up outreach event seeking community feedback on the development of a new park at Linden Ave. and Pine Ave. The movie will begin at sundown. Attendees are encouraged to bring snacks, beverages, low lawn chairs and blankets. Martin Elementary ballfield is located at Hillside Blvd. and Belmont Ave.

Fall 2024 Classes Program and Registration

The Classes Program is excited to welcome a series of new classes starting this fall. Beginning in September the program welcomes Creative Movement – a basic dance class for preschoolers, Beginning Ballet for Seniors, Salsa and Bachata, Introduction to TRX, Kundalini Breathwork, Seated Balance, and additional music lesson opportunities. Additionally, the Joseph A. Fernekes Building will be facilitating two Senior Chair Yoga classes in the mornings. The program also welcomes back the highly anticipated Wreath Workshop classes, including the popular Holiday Take-Home Kits.

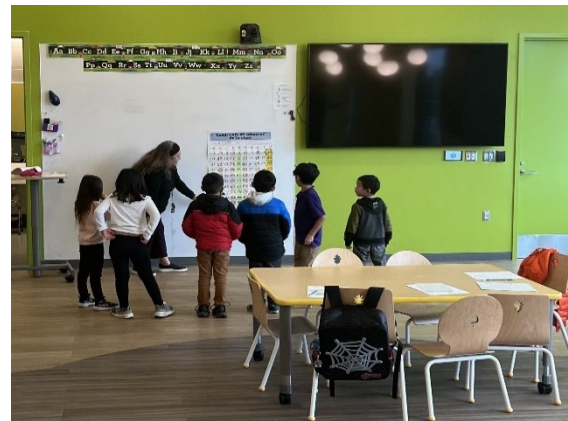
Resident registration began on Monday, August 12 at 6:00 a.m. online and in-person at the Recreation Office beginning at 8:00 a.m. Non-resident registration will begin on Monday, August 26 at 6:00 a.m. online and in-person at the Recreation Office at 8:00 a.m. online. Recreation Scholarship applications are now available in English and Spanish for residents and can be submitted at the Recreation Office. For more information on our upcoming sessions, community members are encouraged to visit the Classes webpage at www.ssf.net/classes.

Parks and Recreation Month

In celebration of National Parks and Recreation Month, the South San Francisco Parks and Recreation team hosted a variety of free classes and programs designed to encourage residents to explore and enjoy everything that parks and recreation facilities have to offer in South San Francisco. The Library | Parks and Recreation Center (LPR) hosted a variety of classes for over 100 participants from drop-in Zumba, drop-in Zumba-Gold, Circuit Body Workout, Chair Yoga, and Pilates. The Roberta Cerri Teglia Center continues to welcome members to the growing activities the center has to offer which includes Coloring Club, Coffee and Chat, Vitality in Breath, Fine Arts Exploration, Knitting and Crochet, chess, and the newest program, GrandFriends. The Department's programs and classes were also showcased at the Farmer's Market, providing additional opportunities for community engagement. Overall, it was a successful month of free programming and outreach to community members of all ages.

Class Highlight: Math and Counting Fun class

During the summer, the Parks and Recreation Department offered lecture-based classes in mathematics taught by Recreation Instructor Griselda Huete. Due to popular demand, a math summer class was developed with students in mind to avoid learning loss and to help students stay engaged in their studies. Over the summer, Math and Counting Fun lessons were held twice a week. The classes were geared to children ages five to eight and nine to twelve. Hands-on games and activities with math concepts, like number sense and strategies were a part of the lesson plans. In the fall, we look forward to continuing the Math and Counting course for an 8-week course.



Math and Counting Fun class with Instructor Griselda Huete

Recreation Summer Intern: Owen Moreno



This summer, the Parks and Recreation Department welcomed El Camino High School student Owen Moreno as part of the City's summer internship program. Owen worked primarily at the Recreation Administrative Office at the Library | Parks and Recreation Center (LPR). In preparation for Parks and Recreation Month, Owen worked on the creation of the program flyer for free classes offered in the month of July along with social media publicity. Owen also created graphics to assist in the campaign of the free Movie Night in the Park and ongoing classes to encourage enrollment. Owen had the opportunity to visit several Recreation Centers and learned about the various programs offered by the Department. Additionally, Owen had the opportunity to shadow Parks Maintenance staff to get a firsthand look on day-to-day work.

Owen has an interest in trades work and will be continuing his studies at El Camino High School and participating in middle college. It was a pleasure having Owen on the team and welcome him back to the Recreation team whenever he expresses any interest!

Aquatics Program Update

Orange Pool Summer 2024 Program Summary

Programming at Orange Pool continues to reach near capacity every season. The child group swimming lessons are in the highest demand, particularly levels one and two, with hundreds of waitlisted participants. Depending on staff availability, lower-level group swimming lessons are added whenever possible, but programming space in the pool is limited to provide safe, structured, and organized lessons. The lowest-demand program is open recreation swim, but this mainly depends on the weather and time of year. Staff are exploring opportunities to maximize this program for the public. Orange Pool had a very successful summer program despite being closed for the first two weeks due to issues with the pool heater. Below is a summary of the number of participants that were served for the six weeks of summer:

Drop-in Programming

- Lap Swimmers: 1,470
- Adult Rec Swim: 1,656
- Open Rec Swim: 3,600

Aquatic Exercise and Aqua Zumba Classes

- Adult Aquatic Exercise: 50
- Aqua Zumba: 47

Learn-to-Swim Classes

- Infant, Toddler, Preschool: 224
- Levels 1 and 2: 713
- Levels 3, 4, and 5: 311
- Adult Swim lessons: 74

Parks and Recreation Month - Free Program Attendance

- July 9:
Morning Lap Swim: 35
Adult Rec Swim A.M.: 37
Open Rec Swim: 45
Adult Rec Swim P.M.: 26
- July 21:
Open Rec Swim: 109
- July 26:
Open Rec Swim: 48

New Hires

Eleven new hires were onboarded this summer to assist with employee turnover. The new employees were hired as swim instructors, and seven of the eleven are enrolled in an upcoming

lifeguard certification course, which will be taught by Aquatics Coordinator Cynthia Lin over the upcoming Labor Day weekend.

Swim Aide Program

The Swim Aide Program was enhanced to provide a more organized and structured experience. The goal was to model the program after a formal job application and interview process. Candidates between the ages of 13 and 14 applied online and experienced an interview and orientation. They received formal training from experienced staff in and out of the water. This new program layout was successful this summer, and the ten registered swim aides are interested in applying to work at Orange Pool when they turn 15. This program is designed to streamline recruitment efforts and enable staff to onboard new employees with training and experience.

Lifeguard Training

This summer, the lifeguards at Orange Pool updated their certifications to include the new American Red Cross 2024 update. Lifeguard training is ongoing, and certified staff are required to complete at least four hours of training per month. Training includes an in-depth review of skills such as CPR with a bag-valve-mask (BVM) and AED, rescuing and extracting a victim from the water (Figure 1), basic rescue skills, full emergency action plan scenarios (Figure 2), and staff discussions to ensure that every lifeguard is up to date to ensure smooth operations and public safety.



Figure 1: Extrication of a passive victim from deep water.



Figure 2: EAP scenario training. Passive victim removed from the water with CPR, AED, and BVM.

Youth Enrichment Services (YES) Update

Summer Camp 2024

Youth Enrichment Services (YES) provided nine weeks of fun and engaging summer camp activities for children in TK (transitional kindergarten) through 14 years of age. Children had the opportunity to learn, make new friends, and reconnect with old friends, through the TK summer program, traditional camps, tween camp, teen camp, specialty camps, sports camps, and the ELOP Program (Expanded Learning Opportunity Program).



Baseball Camp

Field trips are always a highlight of Traditional Camp. This summer children explored the Academy of Sciences, Oakland Zoo, CuriOdyssey, Coyote Point, and Golden Gate Park (including the Botanical Garden – a first for many!). They also cheered on the San Francisco Giants, enjoyed the rides at the Marin County Fair, and splashed their way through the water slides and the lazy river at Aqua Adventure.

Several new components were piloted this summer including the TK Summer Program, several sports camps at the new Orange Park ballfield, and two, two-week sports clinic camps (baseball and basketball). All were a success. Campers loved the scrimmages at sports camp with several telling their parents to pick them up later, so they would not miss anything.

In partnership with the South San Francisco Unified School District, the Expanded Learning Opportunity Program (ELOP) was held for three weeks and offered at no cost to participants. This program had a STEAM focus while still maintaining the recreation philosophy of learning through play. Using the curriculum from three of our Specialty Camps, children participated in Hands on Camp, Art Exploration, Always Question, and Always Wonder.



Teen campers enjoying a meal.

Specialty Camps provide a topic focus for the week and include both internal and external instructors. This year's camps included Force Awakens, Build A Meal, Wizardry, Lego, and Sugar and Spice.



Campers enjoyed recreational swim.

Teen campers continued to explore far and wide with an increased use of public transportation. They had an amazing day meeting city employees from different departments, having lunch at City Hall, and a question-and-answer session. This was a highlight that teens really enjoyed and expressed an interest in repeating next year. Other adventures included hiking at Devil's Slide, Mori Point, Pedro Point, Sweeney Ridge, and Point Bonita. They visited the Egyptian Museum in San Jose, took a tour of College of San Mateo, and explored in San Francisco. Teens also attend the weekly field trips with traditional camp. Teen camp participated in Preschool Buddies where they spend the morning interacting with the children

at Westborough and Siebecker Preschool. The teen camp lunch program continued this year and teens were allotted a weekly budget to plan their lunch menu for the week and grocery shop as a group. This activity requires the teens to work together, compromise, and learn the importance of budgeting.

Other highlights from camp included morning swim lessons, afternoon recreation swim, community adventures, weekly song competition, a talent show, and an end of the summer BBQ. Summer Camp served 656 unduplicated children, as many attend the whole summer.



Campers had various field trips and participated in a variety of specialty camps.



Summer 2024 camps were a success and highly enjoyed by recreation staff and all campers!

Preschool Program Update

This summer featured Fun Fridays at preschool where each week had a different theme. The curriculum and activities for the children were planned according to each theme. On Fridays, the children and teachers dress up according to the theme of the week. For the western theme, the children did cowboy boot art activities and participated in line dancing wearing hats and bandanas. Fairytale week allowed children to make up their very own fairytale stories and they made their own hats, crowns, Rapunzel braids and wands. The children also played with slime and made troll and unicorn masks. For the camping theme, not so spooky stories were read around the campfire and the children made smores. There was also a tent where the children could read books inside with lanterns and pretend to be outdoors.



Preschoolers during their camping themed day.

Sports Program Update

Free Open Gym Results

During Parks and Recreation month, there were four free open gym dates offered to the public at the Terrabay Gymnasium and Recreation Center. A total of 169 people were able to enjoy the free activities and participants were extremely happy. Below is a list of the sport, date, and number of participants:

- Saturday, July 6 (Basketball): 24
- Sunday, July 7 (Basketball): 27
- Sunday, July 7 (Badminton): 44
- Thursday, July 11 (Pickleball): 74

Junior Giants 2024 Season



Junior Giants participants preparing for their game.

The Junior Giants program opened for registration on April 15 with families eager to enroll into a summer full of fun. Many players requested to play alongside their classmates, with teams ranging anywhere from nine to 17 players. Like previous years, the league decided on the following age group divisions: tee ball (ages 5-6), minors softball and baseball (ages 7-9), and majors softball and baseball (ages 10-13). South San Francisco had over 400 participants this season with a little over 100 volunteers.

The highlight of the summer was hosting games at the new Orange Memorial Park Sports Field. Each team played a total of five games on either Friday nights or Saturday mornings on all four diamonds. Spectators, volunteers, and staff had the opportunity to watch all the divisions experience their community's new facility.

The two Ambassadors this season were Ellie Ramirez-Jimenez and Vikram Kacholiya. Ellie is a team mom from the co-sponsored baseball program and dedicated her time to Junior Giants this year. Both of her children played in our tee ball and minors baseball divisions. Vikram, a college student attending Indiana University, also devoted his time to the season this year. Having a sports background in baseball and tennis, he was able to relate to both the players and parents/guardians. Both Ambassadors enjoyed being on the fields, assisting where needed with administrative duties, and, of course, helping the coaches and players.



Junior Giants participants.

As a new commissioner for South San Francisco this year, Sports Coordinator Brooke Bayangos did an amazing job balancing the day-to-day task of running this growing program and is looking forward to the 2025 season.

Rentals Program

American Red Cross Blood Drive – Library | Parks and Recreation Center (LPR)

The City of South San Francisco partnered with the American Red Cross to host the first blood drives at the Library | Parks and Recreation Center (LPR) on July 12. This resulted in 40 appointments. Red Cross staff reported no issues and that the setup and unloading process went very smoothly in the morning. They are excited about the new Social Hall location and said there is plenty of room to grow since there's a greater likelihood of walk-ins. Recreation staff are working with Red Cross to plan more blood drives in the future.

Recreation Facilities Rentals Update



Library | Parks and Recreation Building

As the Department heads into the final five months of 2024, the Facility Rentals team has been extremely busy receiving inquiries and meeting with permit holders. The new rental spaces at the Library | Parks and Recreation Center (LPR) are extremely popular and people are excited to host their special events in the Banquet Hall and Social Hall. Permits are offered eleven months from the event date and the team is busy booking events in 2025.

Picnic Rentals Update

The picnic rentals season is going well, and all 17 picnic sites have been busy each weekend. The picnic season begins each year during the first weekend in March and ends the final weekend of October. The table below indicates the number of reservations per picnic site thus far.

Picnic Site	Reservations
Alta Loma Sites 1-3	103
Avalon	24
Buri Buri Park sites 1-4	160
Orange Park Sites 2-5 & Eucalyptus Shelter	195
Oyster Point Marina	8
Sellick Park	26
Westborough Park Shelter and Site #1	85
Total	704

Parks Division Update

Hillside Ballfield Light Replacement

On July 26, a new light pole was erected at Hillside Ballfield. On the week of July 29, the contractor was replacing the fencing that they had to remove in order to access the field with the required equipment. This project is now substantially complete and Parks staff will begin rehabilitating the sports field for play. This work includes irrigation repairs, aeration, and top dressing to address the compaction and bare spots caused by construction.

Sellick Park Stair Repairs

Parks Division staff recently completed repairs to a staircase at Sellick Park that leads to the Colina condominium complex. Steps were fully replaced with aggregate base installed behind them for a level walking surface. Making these repairs will allow for easier access for residents to reach Sellick Park.



**CITY OF SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO
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DATE: August 29, 2024

TO: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Councilmembers

FROM: Greg Mediati, Director of Parks and Recreation

SUBJECT: Parks and Recreation Department Update

Aquatics Program Update

Orange Pool Lifeguard Training – Labor Day Weekend 2024

Aquatics Coordinator Cynthia Lin will provide lifeguard training over Labor Day weekend for new hires and existing staff seeking certification. The main objective of these training sessions is to certify Aquatics staff as lifeguards. Having additional staff certified provides staff with flexibility to work in multiple roles and significantly improves response time during emergencies. Ultimately, this will enable the Aquatics team to offer the best possible care and supervision to the community members using the Orange Pool facilities, highlighting the crucial role Aquatics staff play in the safety of our community.

The Department aims to have all part-time Aquatics staff certified as lifeguards in preparation for the opening of the new Aquatics Center in late 2025. The new facility will require additional lifeguards throughout the day to oversee everyday operations and ensure the safety of all patrons. To help offset staffing challenges and a yearly turnover rate of about 20-30 percent, typically five to ten part-time Aquatics staff are hired annually. Newly hired staff generally are onboarded as swim instructors, as most of them do not have an existing certification or job experience, and then 6-12 months later, they are certified as lifeguards. Staff's dedication to ongoing development and certification is essential to ensuring the continued success of our programs. Staff looks forward to the positive impact this training will have on our operations.

Cultural Arts Program Updates

Call for Entries “Explore Your Roots” – October 11 and 12

Entries are invited for an October art show titled “Explore Your Roots.” The juried visual art exhibit will feature two-dimensional and three-dimensional art. Artists are encouraged to explore their “roots” by delving into cultural foundations, symbolic connections, and personal origins.

The entry guidelines and online application form are available on the “[Current Opportunities for Artists](#)” webpage at www.ssf.net/culturalarts. The online entry deadline is September 27. Drop in entries will be allowed on Tuesday, October 8.

The art show opening weekend dates are Friday, October 11, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Saturday, October 12, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Additional gallery hours are 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, beginning October 15 through October 25. The show takes place at the Library | Parks and Recreation Center gallery room. Admission is free.

“South City: Past, Present, And Future” New Mural in Sunshine Gardens

Location: Willow Avenue near Nora Drive

Artists: Skyline College Community Mural Project Class

Professor Amir Saber Esfahani

This spring, Skyline Community College student artists under the tutelage of Professor Amir Saber Esfahani created a new mural in the Sunshine Gardens neighborhood. The engaging painting features the natural elements of tree roots and whimsical animals as well as familiar South San Francisco images from the past, present and future.

The Skyline College Community Mural Project (CMP) guides students through the process of creating a public mural, from research, and community engagement to the artistic techniques of design and execution. The brief [Community Mural Project video](#) highlights their journey.



New mural located on Willow Avenue near Nora Drive

Preschool Program Update

Approximately 60 children left the preschool program over summer to enter transitional kindergarten or kindergarten. This transition opens vacancies for new children to join the preschool program. It is bittersweet to see the children leave as some children have been with the program for two to three years. Most of the children transition to South San Francisco Unified School District (SSFUSD) schools and afterschool programs with the City of South San Francisco. Preschool staff are proud of their students and the progress they have made to be ready for this new educational chapter in their lives and for the relationships that have been built with these children and their families.

The teachers have been occupied with preparing for the new students. Approximately three to four children start per week at various preschool sites to allow them to build a routine and relationship with their new teachers and friends. Teachers are experienced and help families during this journey as they transition into preschool.



Preschool staff is looking forward to meeting the new children who will enroll into the program.

Youth Enrichment Services (YES) Program Update



It has been a busy week as Youth Enrichment Services After School Programs opened. Children have been participating in a variety of activities to welcome them back to school. These included ice breakers, art, snackivities, games, and more. Children receive homework assistance and for our youngest participants all this excitement is quite exhausting, so rest time helps them reenergize for the afternoon.

Children created All About Me puzzle pieces that were hung up together to create a group puzzle showing that everyone is connected. The kindergarteners participated in freeze dance during their movement and music time. Children played games that helped them get to know each other and also had self-directed activities. Having children decorate the rooms helps them to feel at home. Unstructured outdoor time is an important part of every child's day.



Classes Program Update

Movie Night in the Park: Trolls Band Together

On Friday, August 16, the Parks and Recreation Department hosted its final Movie Night in the Park for the summer at Martin Elementary School, featuring *Trolls: Band Together*. The event included community engagement components, with a table managed by the Capital Projects team to gather public feedback on the design of a future park on Linden Avenue, alongside a table run by the Parks and Recreation Department. The festivities began with karaoke, which started at 6:00

p.m. The karaoke activity saw enthusiastic participation from the public. Opening remarks were delivered in English by Parks and Recreation Commission Chair Ruth Denardi and in Spanish by Classes Supervisor Veronica Ortiz. Approximately 200 members of the community were served at this event.

Fall Classes Begin in September

Fall class registration is now open to all residents and non-residents of South San Francisco. Several new programs are being offered, including Introduction to TRX, TRX Circuit, Introduction to Aromatherapy, Creative Movement dance class for preschoolers, and more. Members of the community are invited to register as soon as possible at www.ssf.net/rec-catalog. The fall session will run approximately 14-weeks beginning on Monday, September 9 through Sunday, December 15.

Senior Services Program Updates

New Programs

Several new programs have been added to the Roberta Cerri Teglia Center in recent months. The new programs include Coffee and Cards, Seated Pilates, Seated Strength Training, Strength in Standing, Full Body Workout, Coloring Club, Vitality in Seated Yoga, Stand Tall Yoga, and Grand-Friends. In addition to the new programs, operating hours have been extended on Tuesday and Thursday until 5:00 p.m. All the new programs have been very successful, and staff is looking forward to adding more programs in the coming months.

Grand-Friends



Preschoolers visited the Roberta Cerri Teglia Senior Center.

The last scheduled Grand-Friends program took place on Tuesday, August 20. The Siebecker preschoolers joined visited the Center to participate in craft projects with seniors. The senior participants had a great time talking with the preschoolers and helping them with the activity. The preschoolers had so much fun that when they finished with the craft, they were not ready to leave yet, so they walked down to the Adult Daycare Program to show Daycare participants their projects. All the participants, both preschoolers and seniors, look forward to the next Grand-Friends event.

Full of Fun Camp



Full of Fun campers

Full of Fun Camp operated for three weeks this summer. There were over 50 high school volunteers providing one-on-one coaching to each camper during the three weeks of camp. Each day, volunteers partner with a camper and spend the day together doing activities, getting to know each other, forming friendships, and hopefully learning something new about themselves. This summer, campers participated in art projects, science experiments, cooking activities, sensory play, board games, ping pong, karaoke, dance

parties, and field trips. On the last day of camp, there was a family BBQ where everyone got to enjoy coming to camp and spending time with each other and the volunteers. The campers and volunteers are already looking forward to the Nights of Fun starting in September and staff are excited to see them again as well!



SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION

ART SHOW

EXPLORE YOUR ROOTS

This immersive art show honors Indigenous Peoples' Day, Dia de Los Muertos, Filipino American History Month, and Hispanic Heritage Month. Celebrate the rich tapestry of our collective heritage through vibrant art and performances that reflect the diverse histories and cultures that shape our world.



INVITING ENTRIES ARTIST INFORMATION

Mid August | Guidelines and Online Application available

September 27 | Online entry deadline

Select "**Current Opportunities for Artists**" at ssf.net/culturalarts.

FREE ADMISSION

EXHIBIT OPENING WEEKEND

Friday, October 11, 2024 | 6 - 8 p.m.

Saturday, October 12, 2024 | 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

GALLERY HOURS (MONDAY-FRIDAY)

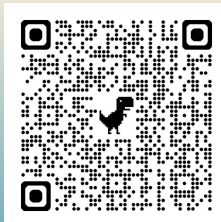
October 15 through October 25 | 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

(Closed Monday, October 14)



FOR MORE INFORMATION

SSF Parks and Recreation Department
www.ssf.net/culturalarts
Ercie Santos, Cultural Arts Specialist
ercie.santos@ssf.net
650.829.3810



LIBRARY | PARKS AND RECREATION CENTER

901 Civic Campus Way
South San Francisco, CA
3rd Floor Gallery
650.829.3800

**CITY OF SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM**

DATE: September 12, 2024

TO: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Councilmembers

FROM: Greg Mediati, Director of Parks and Recreation

SUBJECT: Parks and Recreation Department Update

Rentals Program Update

Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition

The Parks and Recreation Department hosted the Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition at the Library | Parks and Recreation Center (LPR) on Thursday, August 29. The event drew approximately 500 bike advocates and enthusiasts throughout the day from across the Bay Area. The event featured discussions on topics on infrastructure and safety considerations. The Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition reserved the event spaces on the first floor of LPR including the Social Hall, Banquet Hall, Council Chambers, Atrium, both kitchens, and the outdoor patio. The event ran from 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. The Rentals team set up their event spaces with tables and chairs the night before to ensure a smooth start. Overall, the event was a great success and the organizers are already inquiring about availability for 2025.



The Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition hosted a very well attended event at LPR.

Childcare Program Update

Youth Enrichment Services (YES)

An elective program, known as skill centers, are an important component to the Youth Enrichment Services Program (YES). Skill centers provide children with a variety of optional activities to choose from. Giving children the opportunity to choose their activities develops decision making skills, enhances problem solving, builds confidence, establishes independence, and encourages creativity.

Examples of skill centers include art, science, manipulatives, games, homework, reading, and

more. When designing skill centers, staff considers the age and developmental level of the children. Skill centers are rotated each week to offer new options. Using blocks helps with the development of hand-eye coordination, motor skills, spatial awareness, creativity, social skills, and problem solving. Art develops visual-spatial processing, fine motor skills, patience, focus, and creativity. Card games are always a favorite in the program. Playing card games helps children develop mathematical skills, strategic thinking, risk management, social skills, and communication skills. Homework time is also provided every day however some children like to use their skill center time to continue working.



Children are provided a variety of activities to develop their skills.