



Watch us on  
WLS-TV /ABC 7  
Friday, 8/7 @5pm &  
Saturday, 8/8 @  
6am!

## Parent Testimonials

Elizabeth Geldhof, Director of Business Operations

It has been a wonderful sight seeing the many parents come in the morning. We take great care and hold the awesome responsibility of caring for their child each day. It has been a lot of fun meeting all of the new faces and learning each and every little personality! We thank each and every one that has entrusted us to take care of their little one while they are away and appreciate the fact they have come to a new center hoping they might find better care than they have sought before the Little Green Tree House.

We are very proud to have the accolades we have received thus far from our parents. We thought we would share a few with you.

"As parents who spent months researching and trying out daycare centers for our son, we can tell you that the Little Green Tree House ("LGTH") is head-and-shoulders above its competition in Chicago."

Even putting aside the spar-

ling new classrooms, the wonderful roof deck playground, and all the eco-friendly features and meals, the key difference between LGTH and its competitors is LGTH's phenomenal teachers.

The vast majority of LGTH's teachers have four-year degrees in child development (some even have advanced degrees). As a result, their commitment to their profession -- and our kids -- shows. Our son's teachers consistently engage him and his classmates in developmentally appropriate activities and play. They don't just bide their time feeding and changing diapers. They even use baby sign language to encourage their youngest students to communicate at the earliest possible stage. Plus, the weekly emails and lesson plans that we get from our son's teachers demonstrate a remarkably complex understanding of the developmental and social issues that he and his classmates are facing.

The teachers at LGTH are sophisticated, engaging, energetic professionals. Sadly, the same cannot be said for the staff at most other daycare centers.

We are, quite simply, blown away by the quality of care that our son is getting. In fact, we are so impressed with LGTH that we offered to write this testimonial -- to help spread the word about his wonderful gem in the West Loop.

We strongly recommend that you consider introducing your child to what we think is the best daycare center Chicago has to offer."

Parent of an Infant in our Bonsai Classroom

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August, 2009

Volume 1, Issue 4

### Special points of interest:

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"My daughter's first week at the Little Green Tree House was exceptional. The care and affection provide by all of the LGTH staff to our daughter and us was welcoming and helpful. On behalf of our family we want to say thank you!"

Parent of a Toddler in our Peach Classroom

"I just want to say thank you for such a wonderful beginning to [our daughter's] first educational experience! Seeing her happy little face when I picked her up spoke volumes about her day and that means the world to us. Thank you and good luck with your new school -- I'm certain it will be a great success!"

Parent of a Toddler in our Peach Classroom

Please call today to  
set up a tour.

312 492 9876

## The Garden is Growing!

Esmilyn Johnson, Assistant Director of Education

We are super excited about our eco-friendly environment; not only are we focusing on the inside of our center to be eco-friendly but also the outdoors.

Little Green Tree House has a beautiful organic garden located inside the playground area on our rooftop. The children planted beans, watermelons, carrots, and pumpkins. Oh, how they cannot wait for the harvest in October! The children enjoy getting their hands dirty, watering the garden with their teachers whenever needed and talking about how fast the seeds they planted are growing each day.

The care the children give to the garden is amazing. They do not want to disturb the process. They want to make sure they are doing the right things to give the garden the best chance possible. They are so happy with the results thus far and will be so excited when they can pick something, or cook something, or make something from the garden they have taken such tender care of all summer.



*Gardening is ultimately a folly  
whose  
goal is to provide delight.*  
- Deborah Needleman

## Fun Eco-Friendly Facts

Excerpt from Recycled Crafts Box by Laura C. Martin

Where does all of the garbage go? So, what happens to all those throw away items? When we say we are going to throw something away, it's really kind of silly. There is no such thing as away. Everything has to end up someplace, and that place is usually a landfill. A landfill is just a big hole in

the ground where trash is dumped and then covered with a layer of soil.

While burying garbage and getting it out of sight may sound like a good idea, it can cause some serious problems. For example, the plastics we throw into landfills sometimes give off toxic (poisonous) substances. Sometimes this is the form of gas that pollutes the air. Other times, these toxins

mix with rainwater that filters down through the landfill liner and contaminates the water below the surface of the earth. That's our drinking water! Besides, we don't want to fill our earth with trash. We want to leave it as natural and beautiful as possible.

*Three quick tips to prevent items from going in the trash:*

- Can you use a reusable container?
- Take care of your belongings so they don't end up in the trash prematurely.
- Reuse whatever you can – think before you purchase something else... do you need it?

## It's Enrollment Time!

Elizabeth Geldhof, Director of Business Operations



you have not, no problem as we will have full packets ready for the enrollment process.

We apologize in advance for the redundancy; reoccurring information is all required on separate forms.

The Little Green Tree House has an open door policy for all enrolled families. To better serve those who may not have enrolled already you may, during our initial months of operation, want to call for an appointment if you are coming for a tour.

### Reminders:

- We will need a copy of the Birth Certificate of your child.
- We will need a completed child medical form.
- Your banking information will be needed to set up the Direct Debit process as the Little Green Tree House will not accept cash or checks

If you have already completed the paperwork found on our website please be sure to bring it with you. If



## Donate Recyclables !

Erin Lyon, Director of Education

Since we are an eco-friendly school we always welcome household items that can be in the classroom for arts and crafts, dramatic play, gardening or other projects. Egg cartons, paper towel roles, newspaper, old magazines, empty milk cartons, shoe boxes, costume jewelry to name a few are very useful

for all kinds of fun! We also welcome children's books. You can never have too many books in a classroom library. Toys may be donated as well, but because we eco-friendly we will be more selective in what we can use. If we cannot use it here we will donate it to a local thrift shop.



## Quick Reference:

### Center Will Be Closed On the Following Holidays

In 2009

Monday, September 7 (Labor Day )  
Thursday, November 26 (Thanksgiving)  
Friday, November 27 (Day after)

Thursday, December 24 Center will be open 7am – 1pm  
Friday, December 25 (Christmas Day)

### Hours Of Operation

Monday – Friday; 7 am – 6 pm

### Drop Off/Pick Up

Drop off at 7 am

Pick up no later than 6:00 pm

**Telephone Number 312-492-9876**



## For Growing and Learning

### Teacher Lesson Plan at a Glance

Erin Lyon, Director of Education

We are very proud of our teachers and all their hard work here at Little Green Tree House! No matter how young your child is, our teachers are expected to use their valuable knowledge to help children learn and grow. An example of one of our teacher's lesson plans is demonstrated in Krista Clark's unit called "Discovering My Body."



Krista Clark's credentials: Master of Science, Child Development, and Infancy Specialization: Graduated Summa Cum Laude and a Bachelors of Arts, Psychology, Summa Cum Laude. She has a plethora of conference training, continuing Education workshops and Certifications. Her experience of the last eight years sets her apart.

**Goal:** Building self-awareness    **Objectives:** Learning name for head

**Room Modification:** Addition of hats to put on our heads

**Literacy:** Read What's on My Head? By Margaret Miller.

**Cognitive:** Extend to place things on own head and head of child. Drama and humor of it falling off is motivating. Utilize repetition to reinforce "head". Point out body parts on characters in books, on mom and dad. This assists the child's generalization of the concept (i.e. "head" can refer to several shapes on different bodies)

**Song:** To the tune of London Bridge is falling down: "Head, shoulders, knees and toes--knees and toes, knees and toes. Head, shoulders, knees and toes, knees and toes. Eyes and ears and mouth and nose. Head, shoulders, knees and toes."

Touch own and child's bodies to help them connect concepts to words.

**Home Extension:** Read Head, Shoulders, Knees, & Toes, illustrated by Annie Kubler

**Gross Motor:** Help child touch head.

**Communication:** (Receptive) Ask, "Where's your head?" Check for understanding in child touching head

(Expressive) Give communicative value to child's actions. If child happens to touch own head, head of peer, staff or family...reflect that with words. (i.e. "Oh! Hi, head!" "Daddy's head")

**Sensory:** "Little bunny foo-foo, hopping through the forest (\*help child hop/bounce\*), scooping up the field mice and bopping them on the head (\*touch head\*)."

**Social:** "Head bump" game. Say heee-aaa-ddd (drawn out, eyes locked with child, coming closer). When heads touch, say, "BUMP!"

We are on the Web:  
[www.littlegreentreehouse.com](http://www.littlegreentreehouse.com)