

KidsCare™

(A comprehensive program of school-age child care services)

Pennsbury School District

2021 - 2022

“The best home away from home!”

Program Portfolio & Parent Handbook

KidsCare of Pennsbury
Doylestown, Pennsylvania
www.kidscareofpennsbury.com

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We comply with applicable Federal civil rights laws and do not discriminate, exclude, or treat people differently based on their race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability.

KidsCare of Pennsbury
Calendar of Events
August 2021 - June 2022

August/September (2021)							October (2021)							November (2021)													
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S							
22	23	24	25	26	27	28						1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6							
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26	27	28	29	30			31																				
8/30 First Day of School / KidsCare AM/PM Programs Open 9/6 Holiday / KIDSCARE CLOSED 9/7 & 9/8 Holiday / Day-Off Program @ Edgewood Elementary 7 AM to 6 PM 9/16 Holiday / Day-Off Program @ Edgewood Elementary 7 AM to 6 PM														11/2, 11/4, 11/9, 11/11 In-Service & Holiday / Day Off Program @ Edgewood Elementary 7 AM to 6 PM 11/18 Early Dismissal / Half-Day Program @ KidsCare Sites 11/19 Parent Teacher Conferences / Day Off Program @ Edgewood Elementary 6 AM to 7 PM 11/24 Early Dismissal / AM KidsCare programs ONLY 11/25 & 11/26 Thanksgiving Holiday / KIDSCARE CLOSED													
December (2021)							January (2022)							February (2022)													
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S							
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12/23 - 12/31 Winter Recess / KIDSCARE CLOSED							1/17 Holiday / KIDSCARE CLOSED 1/28 In-Service / Day-Off Program @ Edgewood Elementary 7 AM to 6 PM							2/18 Early Dismissal / Half-Day Program @ KidsCare Sites 2/21 Holiday / KIDSCARE CLOSED													
March (2022)							April (2022)							May (2022)													
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3/24 Early Dismissal / Half-Day Program @ KidsCare Sites 3/25 Parent Teacher Conferences / Day-Off Program @ Edgewood Elementary 7 AM to 6 PM							4/5 In-Service / Day off Program @ Edgewood Elementary 7 AM to 6 PM 4/14 & 4/18 Spring Break / Day-Off Program @ Edgewood Elementary 7 AM to 6 PM 4/15 Holiday / KIDSCARE CLOSED							5/17 In-Service / Day-Off Program @ Edgewood Elementary 7 AM to 6 PM 5/27 Early Dismissal / Half-Day Program @ KidsCare Sites 5/30 Holiday / KIDSCARE CLOSED													
June (2022)							LEGEND																				
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6/13 Early Dismissal / Half-Day Program @ KidsCare Sites 6/14 Early Dismissal / Half-Day Program @ KidsCare Sites 6/15 Tentative last day for all KidsCare sites - AM KIDSCARE PROGRAM ONLY *all dates are tentative																											

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Pennsbury School District

Mission Statement

KidsCare, founded in 1991, provides high quality school-age child care for families in a safe, friendly, and child-centered environment. We offer diverse enrichment and learning activities that build self-esteem, develop skills for navigating challenging situations, nurture positive social relationships, and embrace a healthy respect for community. Our programs are licensed by the DHS, are all developmentally age-appropriate, and are taught by certified teachers.

Aims & Objectives

The aims and objectives of **KidsCare “AM”** and **KidsCare “PM”** are ...

- to provide a comprehensive, high-interest program that includes positive incentives for every child to want to attend and participate actively.
- to provide a program in a relaxed, child-centered atmosphere geared towards providing a variety of unique enrichment and learning activities that reinforce the educational experiences of children, promote personal and social development, and foster a lifelong interest in learning.
- to provide activities that encourage children to develop new skills and interests, think critically, make decisions and solve problems.
- to promote safe practices and to provide children with strategies and skills for avoiding, as well as dealing with, challenging situations.
- to provide opportunities for children to develop a better understanding of their local community, as well as the global community.
- to provide parents with a high-quality, reasonably affordable child care program for their elementary-age children.
- to provide before-school and after-school child care in a safe and comfortable neighborhood school setting.

We comply with applicable Federal civil rights laws and do not discriminate, exclude, or treat people differently based on their race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability.

All KidsCare programs are operated in adherence to the “After School Standards” established by the Council on Accreditation in collaboration with the National Afterschool Association.

Member of National Afterschool Association, After-School Alliance, National Association for the Education of Young Children, and Pennsylvania School-Age Child Care Alliance.

KidsCare™

5175 Cold Spring Creamery Rd, Box 16, Doylestown, PA 18902
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Program Locations

The KidsCare program will be offered at seven (7) locations throughout the Pennsbury School District during the 2021 - 2022 school year.

- Afton Elementary School
- Edgewood Elementary School
- Eleanor Roosevelt Elementary School
- Makefield Elementary School
- Oxford Valley Elementary School*
(also serving Fallsington Elementary School)
- Penn Valley Elementary School*
(also serving Manor & Walt Disney Elementary Schools)
- Quarry Hill Elementary School

*Transportation to and from the KidsCare programs will be provided to students attending Fallsington, Manor, and Walt Disney Elementary Schools by the Pennsbury School District at no extra charge.

Program Tuition Fees (no discounts/credits for days unattended)

The following is a listing of program fees for KidsCare 2021-2022 (MONTH OF JUNE IS FREE IF ENROLLED IN MAY!)

KidsCare "AM"		
Full-time Enrollment (5 days per week)		
First Child: \$244/month	Second Child: \$220/month	Third Child: FREE!
Part-time Enrollment (4 or 3 days per week)*		
Four days: \$220/month*	Three days: \$171/month*	(NOTE: no family discounts applicable)

KidsCare "PM"		
Full-time Enrollment (5 days per week)		
First Child: \$278/month	Second Child: \$250/month	Third Child: FREE!
NOTE: Full-time KidsCare "PM" enrollment includes half-day program.		
Part-time Enrollment (4 or 3 days per week)		
Four days: \$250/month*	Three days: \$194/month*	(NOTE: no family discounts applicable)

KidsCare "AM/PM" (5 days per week)		
First Child: \$399/month*	Second Child: \$359/month*	Third Child: \$ FREE!
Part-time Enrollment (4 or 3 days per week)*		
Four days: \$375/month*	Three days: \$292/month*	(NOTE: no family discounts applicable)

"Half-Day" Enrollment **\$30/per "Half-Day" program** *(no family discounts applicable)*

NOTE: "Half-Day" enrollment is automatically included with full-time 5 day enrollment in the KidsCare "PM" program. Additional enrollments in the "Half-Day" program is only available for students enrolled part-time in the KidsCare "PM" program and/or the KidsCare "AM" program.

"Day-Off" Enrollment

First Child: **\$49/day** Second Child: **\$40/day** Third Child: **\$ FREE!**

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Program Registration Fees

A **non-refundable** program registration fee is required at the time of registration. Program registration fees are as follows:

First Child: **\$99**

Second Child: **\$99**

Third Child: **FREE!**

Additional Fees

- Late "Pick-up" Fee: \$5 for every 5 minutes after the 6PM closing time
- Late "Payment" Fee: \$40 if program tuition is not paid *in full* by 1st day of each program month
- Bounced Check Fee: \$50 for each incident in which a check payment is rejected by the bank

General Program Information

Program Eligibility

The **KidsCare** program will accept the enrollment of children attending one of the schools listed under the "Program Locations/Fees" section and in **grades kindergarten through fifth grade** as of the start of the school year.

Program Enrollment Options

The **KidsCare** program offers the following enrollment options:

- **KidsCare "AM"** (7AM - start of school day)
- **KidsCare "PM"** (end of school day - 6PM)
- **KidsCare "AM/PM"**
- **"Half-Day" Enrollment** (time of early dismissal - 6PM)
- **"Day-Off" Enrollment** (7AM - 6PM)

Enrollment in the **KidsCare "AM", "PM", or "AM/PM"** programs can be **full-time** (daily, Monday thru Friday) or **part-time** (minimum of three days per week, and days of attendance must be consistent from week to week).

Once registered, enrollment classifications can only be changed for the succeeding program month, unless otherwise indicated. An enrollment classification cannot be changed part way through a program month, and must be submitted in writing to the **KidsCare** office prior to the 10th of the month preceding the month in which the change will become effective, otherwise all billed charges are payable in full, regardless of reason. **Enrollment classification changes and/or cancelations for the month of June will not be credited/refunded and will not change the calculation of the May tuition bill.**

KidsCare is now billing on a 9-month basis (September thru May).

Program Calendar

The **KidsCare** program will operate five (5) days per week for the duration of the school year whenever school is in session, excluding snow days. The program will start on the first day of school and conclude on **the last full-day of school**, unless otherwise noted. **There will be no KidsCare "PM" program on the half-day before Thanksgiving, however, the KidsCare "AM" program will operate as usual. There is no KidsCare PM program on the last day of school.**

Program Hours & Attendance

The **KidsCare "AM"** program will open at 7AM and continue until the start of school, while the **KidsCare "PM"** program will start at the end of school and continue until 6PM.

KidsCare "PM" program will operate on **Snow "Early Dismissal" Days** should schools dismiss early for inclement weather and will operate until the regular 6PM closing time. Parents are requested to pick up their child(ren) as early as possible on these days. **Additionally, KidsCare reserves the right to close its KidsCare "PM" program at 4PM on Snow "Early Dismissal" Days when severe and extreme weather conditions exist or are predicted.**

Parents are required to personally escort their child(ren) into the **KidsCare** program area and sign in their child(ren) to the **KidsCare "AM"** program, and to personally sign out and pick up their child(ren) from the **KidsCare "PM"** program prior to the 6PM closing time. A late charge will be assessed for any late pick-up at the rate of \$5 for every five (5) minutes. Children will only be released to parents, legal guardians, or designated persons 18 years of age or older, listed on the **Student Emergency Information/Emergency Release/Student "Pick-Up" Authorization Form**.

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Program “Discipline Exclusion” Policy

Attendance at the **KidsCare** program is a privilege, and therefore, the **KidsCare** program reserves the right to exclude any participant from any or all **KidsCare** program(s) for any behavior deemed inappropriate by staff members and program officials. Furthermore, the **KidsCare** program reserves the right to immediately remove and exclude any child from any or all **KidsCare** program(s) who poses a direct threat to the safety and welfare of others in the **KidsCare** program. In such cases, all monies paid on a child’s **KidsCare** account will be completely **non-refundable**.

Program Registration

Registration for the **KidsCare** program will begin during the month of June. Early registration is strongly encouraged since spaces are limited and program enrollments fill up quickly. However, regular registration can occur at any time during the school year, space permitting.

All full-time and part-time registrations must be accompanied by the required **non-refundable** program registration fee (see Program Locations/Fees).

Registration and all required forms must be completed prior to the child's first day in the program. Once a student is registered, any enrollment change requests will be subject to a \$25 processing fee for each request.

Program “Sick Day” Credits

No credit will be extended for sick days except for a child requiring hospitalization or suffering from a contagious illness. In these cases, a physician's note will be required prior to the approval of the sick day credit.

Program Fee Payments

KidsCare program fees for full-time enrollment are calculated on a yearly basis and divided into 9 equal payments. Monthly fees are not based on the number of program days per month.

All monthly KidsCare tuition fees must be pre-paid and are completely non-refundable regardless of reason. Tuition fees for each program month are billed on or near the 20th of the preceding month, and are payable by the 1st of the month of service. A “Late Fee” of \$40 is automatically charged to any accounts not paid in full by the 5th of the program month for which the tuition fee is billed.

All late “pick-up” charges, fees for late payments, and returned check fees are payable in full upon receipt. In addition, the **KidsCare** program reserves the right to exclude any child from the program due to “unpaid” or “past due” monthly tuition fees.

Monthly statements can be mailed to all program participants. Fees may be paid by Check, Money Order, or Credit Card (VISA, MasterCard, Discover).

No credits will be allowed for any unattended days, regardless of reason. Participants will receive no credit for program days cancelled due to inclement weather.

Program “Child Pick-Up” Policy

Children must be signed out and picked up prior to the 6PM closing time. Late pick-up incidents are subject to be billed at \$5 per every 5 minutes. For determining the *official time*, the KidsCare staff use the school's cafeteria clock.

Children will only be released to parents, legal guardians, or designated persons 18 years of age or older, listed on the **Student Emergency Information/Emergency Release/Student “Pick-Up” Authorization Form**.

Identification will be required of any person picking up a child other than the parent or legal guardian. If any doubt exists, the child will not be released into the person's custody and the parent will be notified. Please carefully read the **Student Emergency Information/Emergency Release/Student “Pick-Up” Authorization Form** for further details.

Program “Student Absence” Notification

It will be the responsibility of the parent or legal guardian to notify the **KidsCare** office if their child will not be attending the **KidsCare “PM”** program due to illness or other reason. If your child is scheduled to attend the **KidsCare “PM”** program, and fails to report to the program as scheduled, and attended school on that day, and no parent notification is received, the **KidsCare** staff will contact the parent and/or emergency contacts to verify the whereabouts of the child.

“After-School” Snack

The **KidsCare** program will provide each child with a small after-school snack. Any food allergies should be recorded on the child's **Student Emergency Information/Emergency Release Form**.

Program “After-Hours” Telephone

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Should it be necessary for a parent or legal guardian to contact the **KidsCare “PM”** program while it is in session, parents will be able to contact their child’s **KidsCare** program directly. Program telephone numbers will be provided to parents prior to the start of each school year.

Program “Emergency Information” Policy

All children participating in the **KidsCare** program will be required to have an updated **Student Emergency Information/Emergency Release/Student “Pick-Up” Authorization Form** on file at all times. This form is required and must be completed and signed by a parent or legal guardian prior to a child’s admittance into a **KidsCare** program. Refusal of parents or legal guardian to sign this form will automatically void all registrations and monies will be refunded.

It is the responsibility of the parent or legal guardian to assure that KidsCare officials and program staff members are alerted about special health and/or medical considerations concerning their child.

Parents of children who are highly sensitive to bee stings and/or have any other severe allergy will be required to complete a Severe Allergy “Action Plan” and to supply any special medicines as required by program officials.

Due to the time of day at which the program is held, **no medication will be dispensed by program staff members.**

Health Examination Reports (Required)

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania mandates health examinations for all children upon entry into school. Child Care licensing requirements by the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services also require a health “physical” examination upon entry into the **KidsCare** program.

Therefore, all “new” children to the **KidsCare** program are required to submit a health “physical” examination form, with a physician’s signature/stamp, including immunization record, to the **KidsCare** program. A **Child Health Assessment** form is included with this portfolio, and extra forms are available from the **KidsCare** office. Failure to comply with this requirement within 30 days of enrollment will result in the child not being permitted to continue in the **KidsCare** program.

Program Snow Closing/Delayed Opening/Early Dismissal Policy/ Non-Weather Related Emergency Closings

All **KidsCare** programs will not operate when schools are closed due to inclement weather for the day.

Should schools have a one or two hour “delayed opening”, the KidsCare “AM” program will start one or two hours late depending on the length of the delayed opening.

The **KidsCare “PM”** program will operate on **Snow “Early Dismissal” Days** should schools dismiss early for inclement weather and will operate until the regular 6PM closing time. Parents are requested to pick-up their child(ren) as early as possible on these days.

Additionally, KidsCare reserves the right to close its KidsCare “PM” program at 4PM on Snow “Early Dismissal” Days when severe and extreme weather conditions exist or are predicted.

Should a non-weather related situation arise causing schools to be dismissed early, **KidsCare** will adhere to the decision of the School District regarding the operation of the **KidsCare “PM”** program. Should the School District decide that **KidsCare** should open its **KidsCare “PM”** program at the start of early dismissal, **KidsCare** will immediately implement the procedures indicated on the enclosed **Emergency Contact Form**, and the **KidsCare “PM”** program will operate until all children have been safely picked up by their parents or designated “pick-up” persons. Should the School District decide that **KidsCare** will not be allowed to operate, children will be dismissed according to each school’s emergency early dismissal plan.

Photo Release Policy

Attendance of a child at **KidsCare** implies and grants the parents’ and/or guardians’ permission to **KidsCare** officials the right to use, reproduce, and/or distribute photographs of their child participating in **KidsCare** activities, without compensation or approval rights, for use in materials created for purposes of promoting the activities of **KidsCare**.

Court Orders Affecting Students

In situations where an enrolled student is the subject of a court order (Custody, Restraining, Protection or other) **KidsCare** must be provided with a copy of the most recent order and amendments thereto. The orders of the court will be strictly followed unless the custodial parent(s) requests a more liberal variation of the order in writing. In a case where both parents have joint/shared custody by order of the court, both parents must sign the request.

In the absence of a court order on file with **KidsCare**, both parents shall be afforded equal access to their child as stipulated by law.

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Inclusion

Our early childhood instructors use developmentally appropriate practices and consider the unique needs of all children when planning. Staff will make every attempt to make any adaptations or modifications necessary to meet the needs of the children. Schedules, routines and activities are flexible and staff will work with therapists, special educators and other professionals to integrate individual accommodations, modifications and strategies into classroom routines and activities. Any adaptations will be reviewed with families and other professionals supporting the child.

Our responsibilities for providing care to children with disabilities is fundamentally different than the obligations of the public school and that while we will review and assist any wrap-around programs with the implementation a child's IEP, we are not required to provide services outlined in any child's IEP as we are not considered an education institution under IDEIA laws. We are required to provide reasonable accommodations under ADA laws only. Parents are welcome to discuss the reasonable accommodations that can be made for their special needs child.

Parents are asked to provide IEP information and information regarding any one-on-one or therapeutic services the child receives etc. to the director at registration and we ask that you supply us with the IEP if you have one. If your child has a one-on one at school, please let us know.

Program Activities and Events

Each child attending the KidsCare programs will participate in a daily program consisting of a flexible and varied schedule of activities. The basic program components are as follows:

KidsCare "PM"

- **Arrival/"Cool-Off, Warm-Up" Activities**

This activity period gives the participants an opportunity to "shift gears" and relax from their busy day of school by choosing from a selection of high interest activities that help to reinforce learning, as well as to promote social interaction, self-mastery, creativity, and enjoyment. These activities will include, but are not limited to the following:

Table-Top Games

Puzzles & Challenges

Drawing & Design

Word & Writing Activities

Building Activities

"I Can Do It" Mini-Craft

Creative Play

Interactive Video Games & Wii

The Book Nook

Each child will receive an after-school snack on each day of the program.

- **Homework Helper**

"Homework Helper" provides participants with a supervised homework time, as well as an opportunity to seek additional help and tutorial assistance with homework assignments, lessons not fully understood, and research assignments. Students participating in "Homework Helper" work with the assistance of KidsCare staff in a quiet area of the KidsCare program, a school classroom, or the school library, away from the regular KidsCare program.

It should be understood that this homework period does not replace a regularly established study and homework time at home when parents can review the day's lessons and review homework activities with their child and insure that it is completed as required.

- **Enrichment Activities**

Each participant will be given the opportunity to participate in one or two enrichment or specially planned activities daily. These educational and enrichment activities are based on a monthly thematic unit, and will give participants the opportunity to enrich their experience of the world around them, while reinforcing literacy (reading, writing, listening, observing, and speaking), mathematical, scientific, and social studies skills acquired in the classroom. These activities will include, but are not limited to the following:

Arts & Crafts (using all types of media)

Cooking with Kids

Dramatic Arts & Storytelling

Word & Writing Activities

S.T.E.M. Activities

Sport and Cooperative Recreational Activities

Cooperative Challenges & Projects

Community Awareness & Service Projects

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- **Self-Help Activities**

Throughout the year's program, the **KidsCare "I Can Do It" Club** will present participants with a series of fun and stimulating activities to foster their knowledge and awareness of safe practices. These "self-help" activities will include, but are not limited to the following:

Basic Fundamentals of First Aid Preventing Home Accidents "Self-Help" Skills for Kids
All About "Me" Activities Fire Safety & Education
Handling Emergency Situations / Identifying Dangerous "Household" Situations

- **S.T.E.M. Activities- (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) –**

Allows children to engage to engage in hands-on, fun-related, educational activities related to science, math, engineering and technology. Discover the nuts and bolts of engineering, construct a fleet of rockets, learn about nature, space and its biggest secrets and learn the coolest math-based games.

- **Health Awareness Activities**

The **KidsCare "Healthy Kids" Club** presents participants with a series of "healthy habits" activities to foster their knowledge and awareness of healthy practices and good nutrition. These health awareness activities will include, but are not limited to the following:

Nutrition & Healthy Choices Exercise Physical Activity

- **Leisure Arts Club**

KidsCare recognizes the importance of leisure arts and the positive effect they can have on one's overall health and well-being. Learning and becoming proficient in a hobby or pastime can bring hours of enjoyment and build friendships with fellow hobbyists throughout one's lifetime. It is for this reason that the "**Leisure Arts Club**" has been integrated into the **KidsCare** program. Each week participants will have the opportunity to try some leisure art skills which include, but are not limited to:

Knitting & Crocheting Beading
Weaving Model Making

- **Community Awareness Activities & Projects**

The idea and belief that "*I can make a difference*" is the central theme to **KidsCare's Community Awareness** activities and projects. Each participant will have the opportunity to be actively involved in learning about "community", as well as participating in meaningful projects helping members of their local community, as well as the global community as a whole.

- **Special Enrichment classes** (Held at participating schools for an additional fee. Please call for locations) **Courses include but are not limited to:**

Chinese German Chess Science Wizards Spanish

KidsCare "AM"

- **"Warm-Up"/Supervised Creative Play**

Considering the time of day, the **KidsCare "AM"** program provides for children who need extra time to "wake up" or "slowly get into" the upcoming day's schedule. This phase of the before-school program allows children to gradually work into program activities, and enables them to simply rest, read a quiet book, participate in quiet, creative play by themselves or with a couple of friends, engage in an activity center, or relax and chat with a friend.

- **Enrichment Activities**

Each participant will be given the opportunity to participate in one or two specially planned activities daily. These educational activities are much like the activities planned for the **KidsCare** afternoon program, but are tailored for this special time of the day when the children are "waking up" and starting their day. These activities are based on a monthly thematic unit and will give participants the opportunity to enrich their experience of the world around them, while reinforcing learning. These activities will include, but are not limited to the following:

Arts & Crafts (using all types of art media) Cooking With Kids, S.T.E.M. Activities, Dramatic Arts & Storytelling Cooperative Challenges & Projects, and Word & Writing Activities.

- **Homework "Check"**

During this time, each child will be given the opportunity to "check" their homework assignments for completeness and accuracy, and to prepare for the day's educational program.

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It should be understood that this homework “check” does not replace a regularly established study and homework time at home where parents can “review” school assignments and homework activities with their child and insure that it is completed as required.

“Half-Day” Program

KidsCare will operate a “Half-Day” Program on teacher “in-service” half-days which are scheduled regularly throughout the school year, as well as parent-teacher conference early dismissal days scheduled for the Fall and Spring. “Half-Day” Programs start at the time of early dismissal and end at the regular 6PM closing time. The “Half-Day” Program is automatically included in the full-time KidsCare “PM” enrollment option. Those registered in other KidsCare programs who desire to attend the “Half-Day” Program must also select the “Half-Day” Program enrollment option on the *Registration Form/Child Care Contractual Agreement*. Enrollment in the “Half-Day” program is only available to students enrolled full-time or part-time in the KidsCare “AM” or KidsCare “PM” programs.

We will have Half-Day programs from 11:50 AM to 6:00 PM on November 18th, February 18th, March 24th, May 27th, June 13th, and June 14th at each of the regularly scheduled program sites.

“Day-Off” Program

This service provides working parents with the opportunity to enroll their children in an extended-day child care program on days when the schools are closed for teacher in-service days, parent conferences, and other school holidays. The “Day-Off” Program opens at 7AM and continues to 6PM. Children can be dropped off and/or picked up at any time throughout the program day.

The KidsCare “Day-Off” Program features a program similar to its KidsCare “AM” and KidsCare “PM” programs, but with the flair of a summer day camp program.

The schedule of “Day-Off” Program is listed on the “Day-Off” Program Information/Registration Form included in this portfolio.

Enrollment in the “Day-Off” Program will be on an as needed basis (see “Day-Off” Program Information/Registration Form for specific guidelines). Advanced registration is needed. KidsCare reserves the right to refuse walk-ins.

Cancellation of Day-Off registrations must be made at least 1 week prior to the actual Day-Off date, otherwise the Day-Off fee will not be refunded.

There will be a supplemental charge of \$15.00 for any student who arrives without having been registered in advance.

Registration is available online: If you have access to a computer and the internet please go to www.kidscareofpennsbury.com and complete all of the forms.

KidsCare™

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Pennsbury School District

Program Themes, 2021-2022

During the 2021-2022 school year, KidsCare will be celebrating the rich diversity and beauty of our great country. We invite you to join us in our year-long theme...

Rediscovering America, Finding the Hidden Treasures

September *The Spectacular World of Sports*

We'll start our adventure checking out the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown NY. We'll be trying our hand at pitching, running the bases, and hitting the ball. On the road again to Canton, Ohio to the Pro Football Hall of Fame and a chance to see if we can toss that perfect spiral or at least get the football through the hula hoop. Next stop, Springfield, Massachusetts to the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame and we'll see if we can make a free throw. We can make our own sports cards to trade with friends. We'll think locally about the PA Snow Sports Museum in Reading and create a wooden sled with craft sticks. We'll end up at our home plate where our local sports teams play and create some sports accessories such as football pillows and banners.

October *National Parks: Exploring America the Beautiful*

We'll look at the Grand Canyon and try an experiment with erosion to explore the process that created such a magnificent sight. Travelling northwest to Alaska, we'll check out Denali Park, which is larger than the state of NJ and has the highest mountain in North America. Let's try our cooking skills at our own version of Baked Alaska and build mountains out of paper mache. We'll explore South Dakota with the Black Hills National Forest and the Badland National Park which will give us a chance to see land formations and animals that don't see around here. Perhaps we'll make a game to help us remember what we've discovered.

November *From the Vikings to the Astronauts: The Wonders of Discovery*

We are thankful for all those adventurous people who decided to explore this nation and beyond. We'll salute Johnny Appleseed by making caramel apples. Perhaps we'll make a travel bag like Daniel Boone to carry supplies as we explore. We may even try our hand at making a map and drawing pictures of what we see as we explore our playground. We'll make a model of the space shuttle to remember the brave souls who have travelled outside our earth's atmosphere.

December *Theme Parks: The Rides, the Food, and the Fun!*

December is a great time to think about theme parks as many of them are in warm climates and a lot of holiday flair is added at this time. From Dollywood to Six Flags the roller coasters reign, so we'll make it a challenge to build our own miniature roller coasters and test them to see if the rider can make it from beginning to end or get stuck in the middle. Close to home, we have Chocolate World, Hershey, PA so we'll play some carnival games with Hershey bars and Hershey kisses for prizes. Disney's Epcot in Florida gives us an opportunity to try cuisine from various countries and of course, we need some Mickey or Minnie Mouse ears to wear!

January *Arcades, Video Games and Comic Con: Fun and Games*

Let the games begin! We'll try out some new video games and try our hand at drawing some of the video characters. Perhaps, we'll trace and color some of our favorite characters on shrink art film to make charms. We'll have our own Comic Con wearing costumes of a character we'd like to be. We can even write our own comic books and print them to share the fun. As a nod to the Arcades of the

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past, we'll play "Pac Man" in the gym using the basketball court lines as our pathways. Watch out for the ghosts!

February **Marvelous Music: From Hip Hop to Jazz**

We'll start off in South Florida to see a performance of "Peter and the Wolf" in the park online and learn the instruments used to represent the characters. Then, we'll make our own costume hats and try acting out the final procession moving with the music. Next, we're off to New Orleans to listen to jazz and see if we can guess all the instruments used to create such a colorful sound. Heading north, we'll stop in the Ozarks to hear some Blue Grass and drink some sweet tea with our cookies. Continuing north to Philadelphia for some Hip Hop and we'll try our skills at busting a move. Then on to Bucks County for a little Folk Music and try our hand at painting to music. We can't wait to see the art!

March ***Magnificent Monuments: Captivating Sculptures that Mark and Celebrate Our History***

We'll start with the Astoria Column which is covered with paintings of the forging forth of the West from Lewis and Clark's expedition to the gold rush and more. We'll make our own historical columns marking events in our lives using paper towel tubes as our base. Then on to Monument Valley in Utah where the rock formations are the monuments. Perhaps we can make some miniature monuments using red clay. We'll look at a map to check out "4 Corners" which is where four of our states meet. Then, we're off to St. Louis, MO to see The Gateway Arch. This marks the history of many people travelling to the West as they started their wagon trail adventures. We'll take the STEM challenge to build our own covered wagons. Lewis and Clarke went up the Missouri River starting in St. Louis and made it as far as Sioux City, Iowa before tragedy struck and Sgt. Floyd became ill and died. A monument was raised in his honor as he was the only member of the expedition that died on the journey. We'll make an obelisk like the one for Sgt. Floyd's Monument and like the Washington Monument in DC.

April ***Food Fascination: From Sweet to Salty, the Snacks We Love***

We'll begin with the sweet taste of cupcakes and try our hand at making them look yummy! Restaurants are fun to eat at, so we'll create our own restaurants and create a menu and "food" to serve. It's amazing how yummy pasta with red glue sauce can appear. It's also fun to use fuse beads to create some sweet looking treats. Then, we'll do a blindfold fruit taste test to see if we can identify what we're tasting without seeing it. We'll have some fun making our own little pizzas using English muffins for a crust. Perhaps we can even make enough fudge to share with friends and family. After all the best part of food is in the people with whom we eat it.

May & June ***Sailing Off into a Summer of Fun***

We'll start off with a STEM project to see if we can make a boat out of clay that can hold marbles. Then we'll paint a beautiful sunset and add a sailboat silhouette to help us dream. With the warm weather, we'll play some water games like a water balloon toss to see if we can catch one without popping it. Enjoying a beach ball volley ball game will give us a friendly challenge. T-shirts are a summer staple, so we'll give it some flair by adding a spin art design to make it more spectacular. We'll work as teams to make "sand" castles out of construction paper and paper towel rolls. To give it more of a visual effect, we'll rub crayons over our paper with sandpaper underneath. It will be fun to release the creativity and see the spectacular results. Then we'll make a memory book to keep track of all our real summer adventures so we'll have lots to share with our friends in the fall.

