



Prospective Tiger Tots' Teacher News

About Our Teaching Community

Our teachers are an excellent reflection of the student population at Tiger Tots. We are a culturally-rich and diverse community of learners! We have had teachers from America, Australia, Canada, New Zealand, The Philippines, Taiwan, South Africa, and India.

All of our teachers come on board with degrees or certificates related to the early childhood education field. You'll find most have a BEd in the Primary/Junior Section or

an early childhood degree or diploma. Some of our teachers hold a Masters degree in the field of education. All teachers are required to have two years relevant teaching experience before coming on board. We also require a passion for teaching and most importantly, for kids!

Teaching assistants work inside every classroom alongside teachers and are invaluable people in program. Many teaching assistants have been

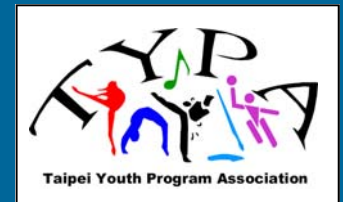
with the program for almost ten years now, some for even longer!

Teaching schedules begin at 8:00 in the morning for all staff. All positions are considered full-time. Some positions involve a half-day teaching schedule with enrichment, while others offer a full-day schedule with enrichment classes. All but one of our enrichment classes finish at three or four-thirty. Paid prep-time is given to all teachers.

Tiger Tots Preschool

What's Special About Us!

- Child-centered Program
- Professional & Western working environment
- Competitive salary & benefits included
- Multicultural community
- Located in an expatriate area of town with many amenities readily available
- It's fun to work here!



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Please check out our teacher opinions on page 4 to learn more about how it "feels" to work at Tiger Tots.

A Note from the Director

During 2009 I was given the opportunity of a once-in-a-lifetime experience – to relocate to Taiwan and take up the position of Director of the Tiger Tots Preschool Program in Taipei. For the past 13 years I had held the position of Head at a Pre-Preparatory girls' school in Cape Town. My own children had relocated to different countries around the world, so I took the decision, and began my adventure!

A little 4-year-old girl at my previous school tearfully asked me why I had to leave and move to Taiwan. My instant response was, "I need to take some love to the other side of the world!" My prime motivation here is to provide a warm, nurturing environment for our little students, making each day an adventure; imparting knowledge in a stimulat-

ing, happy environment by means of fun and laughter.

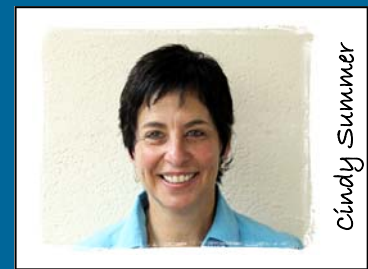
I have an amazing team of skilled professionals alongside me at Tiger Tots. Each one contributes uniqueness, warmth, patience and a vast amount of experience and resource knowledge to our Program. Each one is part of the Tiger Tots family and we all work collaboratively. Our teachers are more than happy to assist newcomers and will go out of their way to make one feel at home.

Our emphasis is on the emergent curriculum and providing an environment wherein the development of confident individuals with positive self-esteem is encouraged. This ethos permeates throughout our staff and students and creates an environment wherein optimum

learning experiences are achieved. This year we are implementing the *Bounce Back* program, which assists students to develop resilience in their daily lives.

During the year many days are set aside for Professional Development. The importance of regular staff workshops cannot be underestimated. They have a tremendous impact on our teaching methodologies with positive outcomes for the students.

Every day at Tiger Tots is a new adventure. To teach, is to touch a life!



More Details About Our School

Tiger Tots operates under the umbrella of the Taipei Youth Program Association (TYPA) and is a licensed private American curriculum preschool located in and adjacent to the Taipei American School. For over 20 years now, we have been operating a small preschool and kin-

dergarten program for children ages 2–5 years old, which runs from 8:45am–2:15pm. Pre-school enrichment classes are also offered up until 4:30. Additionally, for students in Grades 1-6, we have a Language and Literacy program for children are attending local elementary

schools. Our students come from rich and diverse cultural and language backgrounds. As a truly international school, we serve the expatriate community in Taipei, offering services to children and families who hold foreign passports.

Teaching Practice at Tiger Tots

Tiger Tots is a professional, creative, engaging, and fun place to work! Our programs and curriculum are child-centered, following educational positions outlined by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) in America. We have a bright, spacious school, inviting class-

rooms, and great teacher-student ratios. Teachers practice the highly regarded emergent curriculum planning approach, allowing for teacher-autonomy and development inside the classroom, while a community environment is continually supported through cooperative class projects and

regular team meetings. Current and relevant seminars and workshops are offered on a variety of topics during Professional Development Days. Two specialist teachers visit classes each week and teachers collaborate with a full-time teaching assistant for all classes.

Free Play An Important Component in All Our Programs

“The Value of Play” NAEYC

*You say that you love your children,
And are concerned that they learn today,
As am I, that's why I'm providing
A variety of kinds of play.*

*You are asking what's the value
Of having your children play?
Your daughter's creating a tower,
She may be a builder someday.*

*You're asking me the value
Of blocks and sand and clay.
Your children are solving problems,
They will use that skill every day.*

*You're saying that you don't want your son
To play in that girly way.
He's learning to cuddle a doll,
He may be a father someday.*

*You're questioning the interest centers,
They just look like useless play.
Your children are making choices,
They'll be on their own someday.*

*You're worried your children aren't learning
And later they'll have to pay.
They're learning a pattern for learning,
For they'll be learners always.*



“Children won’t always remember what we *teach* them, but they will never forget how we *treat* them.” (Falter, 2001)

CALENDAR, HOLIDAYS, AND WEEKLY SCHEDULE

We follow a typical American school calendar year, but also follow regulations for local government holidays. Our programs last from mid-August until mid-June. We also have a summer camp offered for six weeks each summer. Our calendar includes 5 weeks of holidays, including a Winter Break, American Thanksgiving,

Mid-Autumn Festival, Chinese New Year, and Spring Break, as well as approximately 10 Professional Development Days. While hours offered vary depending on position taken, all teachers work Monday through Friday and all positions are considered full-time. The school is closed for 4 weeks during the summer.

SKILLS & QUALIFICATIONS

1. A professional disposition and a sincere desire to teach children. A team player who enjoys sharing and collaborating with colleagues.
2. Native English Speaking Capacity
3. A degree/diploma from a recognized university in the field of Education/ECE or a MA degree in a field related to education. Teaching English as a Second Language Degree candidates may be considered depending on accompanying degree and experience.
4. Two years of post degree teaching experience with young learners.

HOW TO APPLY

We interview throughout the school year, and keep records and candidates on file. Please send by facsimile or e-mail, your complete application, including:

1. Resume
2. Recent photo
3. Two professional references
Cover letter that detailing your interest in teaching children at our school
4. Copies of certification/degrees/diploma (originals and/or transcripts required at time of contract signing)

Salary & Benefits

Starting salary for this position is competitive, yet dependent on qualifications and teaching experience. Both local and foreign experience will be considered in salary calculation. Aside from summer contracts, most teacher contracts are for 10 month salary positions which include paid holidays as well as

force majeure, personal, and sick leave allowances. We provide a residence visa, working permit, as well as health and labor insurance. There is also a possible option for teaching the summer camp which lasts six weeks. Special contract details are offered for overseas hires.



Virginia Blais ~ Pre-K/K Teacher 2004-2007

(Boston, America)



I began working at the Tiger Tots American Preschool after having taught ESL in Taiwan for three years. I have had the opportunity to work as a pre-kindergarten and kindergarten teacher at this school and have found the experience to be a rewarding one. The switch from teaching ESL in local schools to delivering an American and child-based curriculum to an expatriate community has been both challenging and stimulating. The school utilizes an emergent curriculum and this has given me a great amount of autonomy in curriculum development which in turn has aided me in developing my own teaching methods and techniques. The teachers are enthusiastic and devoted to working as a team to deliver the best programs to their community of students. The administrative staff is both knowledgeable and supportive; offering professional development workshops and seminars that inform teaching in our current context. Overall, it is a fantastic step into teaching at the preschool level and I highly recommend employment at this school.



Leilani Charles ~ Pre-K Teacher 2006-2007

(Toronto, Canada)

I worked at TYPA teaching the four year old program from 2006-2007. It is a fantastic and supportive work environment. Arriving here from Canada was a new and thrilling experience; the area is fantastic for foreigners providing most of the comforts of home. The emergent curriculum is child-centered and the small class sizes really allow you to have an ideal teaching experience, putting children first! The professional atmosphere and teacher appreciation are wonderful; the professional development is also totally relevant and practical! The entire Tiger Tots community (parents, children, staff) is completely welcoming and enjoyable! I would recommend this teaching experience to everyone!



"Teachers shape the future, by touching the lives of those who will live there, one child at a time."
(Davidson, 2000)

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Tiger Tots' Mission Statement

Tiger Tots' Mission is to maintain a child-centered environment at all times, as we strive to give our precious little people the best possible care, within a learning environment that is safe, stimulating, meaningful, and developmentally appropriate. We support our teachers in their daily practice and with ongoing professional development. Tiger Tots encourages cooperative parent involvement and partnerships with our program as an essential component in a child's educational journey. We celebrate and foster the individuality of each of our students, as well as the multicultural environment our program operates within.