## NEWS



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## 'NATURE KIDS' PRESCHOOL OPEN HOUSE IS JAN. 31 AT TUALATIN HILLS NATURE CENTER

THPRD is looking for nature kids!

On Saturday, Jan. 31, from 10 am – noon, The Tualatin Hills Nature Center (15655 SW Millikan Way, Beaverton) is hosting an open house to preview the park district's only nature-based, nine-month preschool program.

Parents eager to see their 3 to 5-year-olds interact with their natural environment at an early age are encouraged to attend – with their children – to learn more about the Nature Kids preschool program and to register early for the 2015-16 school year.

The half-day program is offered mornings and afternoons, Monday through Friday.



Children 3-5 years of age – and their parents – are invited to a Jan. 31 open house to preview the Nature Kids preschool program.

"Nature is an amazing playground that we are lucky enough to explore every day!" said Karen Munday, the program's coordinator. "Nature Kids combines outdoor exploration with indoor preschool learning to get kids prepared for kindergarten and establish a life-long connection to nature."

Nature Kids curriculum focuses on experiential learning through exposure to

nature and the changing seasons, helping children thrive in a safe and active natural environment.

Open house attendees can meet instructors, visit classrooms, and tour the grounds of Beaverton's 222-acre Tualatin Hills Nature Park, which features evergreen and deciduous forests, creeks, wetlands, ponds and meadows. The park is home to a variety of birds, mammals, and smaller creatures. Its five-mile trail network includes 1.5 miles of paved pathways and 3.5 miles of well-maintained, soft-surface trails.

## **About THPRD**

Formed in 1955, THPRD is the largest special park district in Oregon, spanning about 50 square miles and serving 230,000 residents in the greater Beaverton area. The district provides year-round recreational opportunities for people of all ages and abilities. Offerings include thousands of widely diverse classes, more than 90 park sites with active recreational amenities, 60 miles of trails, eight swim centers, six recreation centers, and 1,400 acres of natural areas. For more information, visit <a href="www.thprd.org">www.thprd.org</a> or call 503-645-6433.

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