

Teachers: Get to know the staff

Teacher Debi



In the 13 years she has been with us, Debi Chessen has been dedicated to teaching preschoolers to become more independent. She loves children, and has been labeled by her family and friends as "the kid-magnet". Prior to teaching in Cupertino, Ms. Chessen taught in the West Los Angeles area, where she went to college. While her grown children were in school, Debi taught Music for Minors, and was a Girl Scout Leader at Collins School, as well as participating in many volunteer positions where her expertise was needed.

Teacher Vandana



Vandana Mehrotra has been working with Cupertino Park and Recreation Preschool for 9 years. She has a Masters Degree from India and an early childhood education certificate with 52 ECE Units. She is also a CPR and first aid certified teacher. She loves children and enjoys working with them. She sees that all kids need is love and a safe environment.

Teacher Patricia



Patricia Mungal has been a teacher for Parks and Recreation for 20 years. She is a Montessori trained teacher and also is a Parent Educator trained in the PAT curriculum. She also has over 5 years of college, she trained in Graphic Design and Art. She enjoys working with the children, laughing with them, doing the crafts, being creative and helping them to have a happy and loving environment surrounding them.

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Teacher Rani



Rani Natarajan has been working for the City of Cupertino for the past 14 years. She attended East Los Angeles City College for an AA Degree in Early Childhood Education. She worked more than 10 years in public school as a teacher's Aide for 8th graders to Kindergarteners. Rani enjoys working with Tiny Tots and Pre-K children.

Teacher Shazia



Teacher Shazia joined the Cupertino preschool family in 2013. She has BA in Psychology and an AA degree in Early Childhood Education with a focus in mental health from De Anza College. Shazia truly believes that in addition to strengthening socialization skills, how to compromise, be respectful of others, and problem-solve, preschool is a place where your child can gain a sense of self, explore, play with his/her peers, and build confidence. She is looking forward to a FUN and purpose filled year with your child.

Teacher Viji



Viji Prakash has returned to continue working as a preschool teacher with the city of Cupertino. She is passionate about working with children and really hopes to make your child's time enjoyable and meaningful during their time in pre-school. She has two children of her own, one who will be going to college soon. Her interests include reading, cooking, gardening and spending time with friends and family. She super excited to have your child in my class!

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Teacher Rose



Teacher Rose has worked for the Cupertino Recreation & Community Services Department since 2005. She worked in the Child Watch Program at the Cupertino Sports Center for two years. She was very active as a volunteer in the schools and really enjoys working with the preschool children. She has four grown children of her own.