

Helpful Hints for Group Care Success

Items you should leave at school year-round:

- Extra shoes - good for running
- Extra clothes - we get messy! We recommend 3 sets of extra clothes for Toddlers, 2 sets for Shooting Stars & Wombats and 1 set for Orcas & Dragonflies.

Items you should leave at school September - May:

- Cold weather accessories - hat, gloves & extra socks
- RAIN GEAR! - we go outside every day! Your child should have a reliable rain jacket and rain pants at school. If it's raining when you leave your house, put your child in boots that fit well, or bring them for your child to wear at school.
 - **Toddlers:** the toddlers spend more time in the rain than any other classroom. Keep a rain suit at school. The "Tuffo Muddy Buddy Rain Suit" can be purchased at Bed, Bath & Beyond, or online for under \$30.00. It zips over shoes and heavy coats for easy dressing and undressing.

Items you should leave at school June – August:

- Swim suit & towel – for water play on the play yard during the summer heat
- Water shoes – not flip flops or Crocs! Good water shoes secure around the heel and allow your child to run and climb successfully.
- Sunglasses or sun hat
- Apply sunscreen before you come to school – your teachers appreciate this

Helpful hints:

- Label your clothes – UTCS is not responsible for lost clothing. If you want it back, write your child's initials in tags, or order name stickers online from custom sticker websites like "Bubble Names" or "MabelsLabels."
- Check your child's cubby each night! Take home dirty clothes and replenish extras.
- Don't bring clothes to school that can't get dirty. We play with all kinds of messy media here; your child's clothes will get dirty.
- If you haven't done laundry for your classroom in a while, sign up. Laundry is a community effort and it's no fun to be the parent who always signs up for laundry.
- Communicate with your teachers! Is this something I should discuss with my teachers? If you have to ask, the answer is yes! Things we want to know about:
 - If your child will be absent for any reason
 - If you or your spouse is out of town-and really if any major changes are happening around home, even if they might be temporary
 - If you've noticed any abnormal behavior or sleep patterns in your child
 - If you have any general concerns about your child, development or the way things work in your child's classroom
 - If you intend to change your schedule
- Participate in community events at UTCS! It is a proven fact that successful children have involved parents. UTCS puts on community events throughout the year. They are a great way to make connections with other families, strengthen parent-teacher-child relationships and model for our children the value of community!