

Center for Families Community Playgroups

What is the difference between a Drop-In group and a Community Playgroup?

Community Playgroups are 8-week sessions. Each 8-week session has its own theme. Spring 2015 will have a new theme! Parents need to sign-up and register for Community Playgroups because there are a limited amount of children per playgroup. We ask that parents attend each week for their children to learn routines and be part of a regular group.

Drop-In Playgroups do not require registration and parents are free to come and go to these playgroups. There are art activities each week, but they generally do not go with a theme.

Both playgroups are a time for adults and children to learn and play *together* with activities with light snacks provided.

How can I register my child(ren) for Community playgroups?

Registration forms will be available in starting March 2, 2015 for spring 2015 Community Playgroups. **Registration forms are due no later than March 31st.** Be sure to turn in your forms on time to be entered into the lottery. Families who were on the winter waitlist will be given priority in the spring. **Spring Community Playgroups will begin the week of April 13th.**

You can pick up a registration form at:

- Center of Families, 70 Rindge Ave (in back of Peabody School).
- Agenda for Children, 119 Windsor Street
- Requesting one from Cynthia at 617-349-6327 or cwoodward@cambridgema.gov

Forms are also located below. Feel free to print them out and send them to Cynthia at cwoodward@cambridgema.gov or mail them to:

Center for Families
c/o Dept. of Human Service Programs
51 Inman Street
Cambridge, MA 02139

Questions? Call or email Cynthia at 617-349-6327 or cwoodward@cambridgema.gov.

Cambridge Community Playgroups Registration for Spring Session 2015

REGISTER TODAY - SPRING PLAYGROUPS START APRIL 13TH

What are Cambridge Community Playgroups?

Cambridge Community Playgroups are 8 week playgroups for children, moms, dads or caregivers to attend together. Playgroups provide activities that help children learn and experience being part of a group. There are four groups for children 2-5 years and two Tiny Tots groups for children 15-23 months.

How do playgroups help my children?

Children play and learn with their parents, caregivers, and other children. The routines and activities help children grow and get ready for school.



What do parents and caregivers do during playgroups?

You get time to play and learn with your children. You help them play with other kids and do fun activities together.

When do they meet?

Each playgroup meets once a week for 8 weeks.



How often do I need to attend?

We want to see you every week! This is not a drop-in group. It is important for children to learn routines and be part of a regular group.

What if I can't come one week?

We understand that sometimes a child is sick, or you can't make it to group for another reason. You can miss up to 3 groups. If you miss more than 3 groups, then we will give your spot to another child on the waiting list. You can always sign up again next session!

How do I sign up?

Fill out the registration form and return it by

1. You can mail it to: Center for Families, c/o DHSP, 51 Inman St., Cambridge, MA 02139.
2. You can give it to anyone at the Center for Families (70 Rindge Ave.) or the Agenda for Children (119 Windsor St.)

How will I know if I am in a playgroup?

There are many people who want to be part of a playgroup! People who were on the waitlist during the winter session and turn in their spring registration forms by the due date (March 21st) get priority in group placement. There is a lottery for the rest of people who turn in their forms by the due date. **We will call or e-mail you by April 6th to tell you whether you are in a group or on the waitlist. You must reply to accept or decline your group spot by April 9th.**

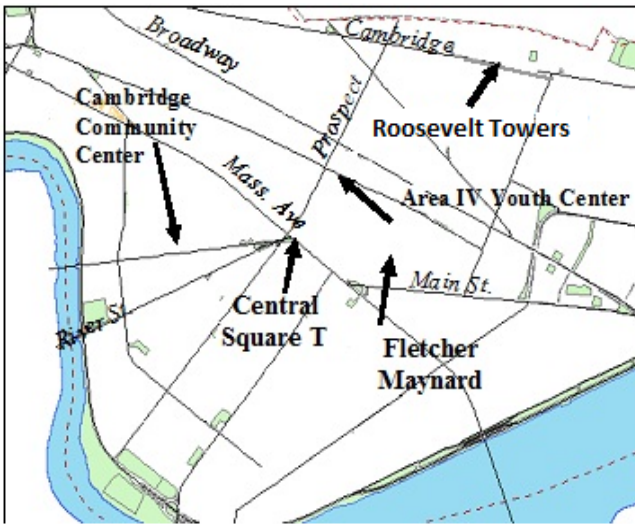
Cambridge Community Playgroups

Additional Information

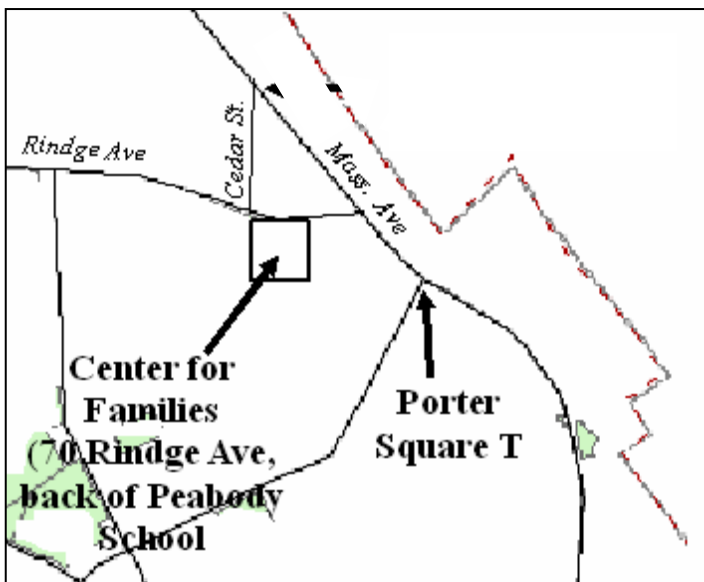
Questions? Need more information? Contact:

Cynthia Woodward, Center for Families at 617-349-6327 or 617-349-6385,
or e-mail cwoodward@cambridgema.gov
or Priscila Cardoso, Agenda for Children, at 617-665-3825
or e-mail pcardoso@challiance.org.

Locations in Central & East Cambridge



Locations in North Cambridge



More Information!

Cancellations: If Cambridge Public Schools are canceled, or if there is a state of emergency, we will cancel playgroups.

Weather: Groups will not be canceled due to rain. If you have questions, call 617-349-6327.

Sickness: If you or any of the children you are bringing has had a bad cough, fever, diarrhea, or vomiting in the last 24 hours, do not come to group.

**IF YOU CAN'T COME
TO YOUR GROUP,
CALL Cynthia Woodward at
(617) 349-6327 AND
LEAVE A MESSAGE SAYING YOU
WILL NOT BE THERE.**



REMEMBER: Spring Playgroups begin the week of April 13th

Cambridge Community Playgroups Registration Spring Session 2015

Please fill in the information for all adults and children who will attend the playgroup together.

I have read and I understand the information and agree to follow the rules and guidelines:

My signature: _____ **Date** _____

Parent/Caregiver Name: _____

My child(ren) will be attending the playgroup with: _____

Relationship to Child(ren) (please check one): Mother Father Grandparent Other Relative Child Care Provider

Address _____ Cambridge, MA Zip code _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Please list ALL children you will be bringing to the group, including siblings. *If you do not have enough space, please write all the children on the back of this form and note that below.* Thank you!

Child's Full Name _____ Birthday _____

Child's Full Name _____ Birthday _____

Do any of the children have special needs or allergies that we should know about? **YES NO**

If yes, please describe _____

What language(s) do you speak at home? _____

How did you hear about Cambridge Community Playgroups? _____

Optional: These questions are so we can report to our funders the number of people who attend our programs who live in subsidized housing or who are currently taking English classes. The answer you give is confidential and will not affect your placement in a group.

Do you live in Public Housing, receive Section 8, or some other form of subsidized housing? **YES NO**

Are you currently taking a class to learn English? **YES NO**

PLEASE MARK YOUR TOP THREE CHOICES WITH 1, 2, AND 3. These groups are for children who will be *at least 2 years old* by the start of the group:

	Center for Families, 70 Rindge Avenue	Mondays 10:00-11:30 am	4/13, 4/27, 5/4, 5/11, 5/18, 6/1, 6/8, 6/15
	Cambridge Community Center, 5 Callendar St.	Mondays 10:00-11:30 am	4/13, 4/27, 5/4, 5/11, 5/18, 6/1, 6/8, 6/15
	Fletcher Maynard Academy, 229 Windsor St.	Tuesdays 10:00-11:30 am	4/14, 4/28, 5/5, 5/12, 5/19, 5/26, 6/2, 6/9
	Roosevelt Towers, 14 Evereteze Way. (please note, only 7 weeks)	Wednesdays 10:00-11:30 am	4/15, 4/29, 5/6, 5/20, 5/27, 6/10, 6/17

PLEASE MARK 1st and 2nd CHOICE. These groups are the Tiny Tots Groups (*for children 15-23 months*).

	Center for Families, 70 Rindge Avenue	Tuesdays 10:00-11:30 am	4/14, 4/28, 5/5, 5/12, 5/19, 5/26, 6/2, 6/9
	Area IV Youth Center, 243 Harvard St.	Thursdays 10:00-11:30 am	4/16, 4/30, 5/7, 5/14, 5/21, 5/28, 6/4, 6/11

Return this form by March 31st to:

Center for Families, c/o DHSP, 51 Inman Street, Cambridge, MA 02139

You can also turn in forms at the Center for Families office (70 Rindge Ave.)

or by emailing it to Cynthia at cwoodward@cambridgema.gov.