



Dear Parents,

Here at Bear Buddies, we support breast feeding mothers. We have an open-door policy and welcome you to stop in and breast feed your child any time. We provide a comfortable “mommy” space where you can nurse your child. We also offer plenty of refrigerator and freezer space to store breast milk.

Please label all breast milk with your child’s first and last name and the date the milk was expressed. When a child is given a breast milk bottle the teacher verifies the name on the bag of milk and the child, then a second teacher verifies the information before a child is fed the bottle. If a bag of breast milk is found with no name or date, we must discard it immediately.

We at Bear Buddies, must follow the DCF-251 Licensing handbook. It is recommended that expressed breast milk be discarded after 48 hours if refrigerated or if frozen for over three months. Unused breast milk, which has been thawed in the refrigerator, must be used within 24 hours. Breast milk that has been out of the refrigerator for more than one hour; a bottle that has been fed to a baby that exceeds one hour from the beginning of the feeding must be discarded as well.

Infants are on an “as needed” feeding schedule. Bear Buddies understands that as parents we would like to follow an eating schedule for our children. However, licensing does require a doctor’s note if a strict feeding schedule is to be adhered to. We require that parents always bring in extra breast milk just in case a bag tears, a bottle leaks, a bottle is tipped over or if baby is hungrier today. We understand that breast milk is liquid gold and we handle it with care. In the unfortunate event we do have an accident we need to be prepared. This is also a stimulating environment and sometimes children will eat more than at home.

We do not want to leave our dads out. You also are welcome to stop by and visit or feed a bottle to your child.

If you have any questions or concerns don’t ever hesitate to talk with your child’s teacher or the Director.

Thank you for being part of the Bear Buddies Family.