# Childcare centre 'De Kleine Plantage'

Our childcare centre is located in one of the most beautiful streets of Amsterdam, directly opposite Artis Zoo, and it will come as no surprise that we regularly visit the zoo. 'De Kleine Plantage' is a small-scale and friendly childcare centre in the middle of the 'Plantage' neighbourhood. Because of the warm and comfy atmosphere at this childcare centre, children and parents alike quickly feel at home.



# Whole days and half days

Besides whole days of childcare, we also offer half days; a combination of whole and half days is also possible.

# Strong educational vision

We pay a great deal of attention to the development of social skills. We certainly stimulate playing together, but children are also given every opportunity to play on their own, should they want to. To stimulate the children's independence, the group areas at 'De Kleine Plantage' have been designed such that children can take out the toys themselves. They can go to the bathroom themselves, and they may themselves choose whether they want to play inside or outside, and what they want to play with.

### **Experienced staff**

We feel that it is important that there is continuity in the groups. This is why we work with a fixed team who have a great deal of experience. All our co-workers work five days a week. Our stable and experienced team consists of five staff members who work with each other and with all the children on a daily basis. Our youngest co-worker has worked with us for eight years, and the oldest has been at 'De Kleine Plantage' for nearly thirty years. In addition, we have our own regular substitute for holidays or illness. As a result of these well-known faces, there is a great deal of continuity and a secure and safe atmosphere at 'De Kleine Plantage'.

### All kinds of activities

Every day we do craft activities with the children, either in our own art room or in the group areas; we also frequently sing songs with the children. We take the children outside every day, so that they can play in our own courtyard garden or in Artis Zoo, which is at the end of our street. We frequently visit the zoo, as it is a great place for the children to play, and they all soon learn exactly where each animal lives.

Every other week our regular artist visits us to do some creative activities with the children. Lots of photographs are taken and the children's works of art are exhibited throughout the building, so that you can see what the children have made. In addition, our Magical Songsmith regularly stops by to make music with the children, so that the children become acquainted in a fun way with different musical instruments and with singing.

We also visit places with the children, for example a puppet theatre. We also visit 'Huize Plantage', a home for the elderly in our own street. Here, together with the grandfathers and grandmothers, we read books, do puzzles or sing songs. Sometimes we also visit the public library.

# **Healthy lifestyle: food**

The children are provided with a healthy and varied cold lunch of fresh wholemeal sandwiches with organic filling as much as possible. We also make sure there is always something extra, such as raw vegetables or salad.

Being outside and using your body are also part of a healthy lifestyle

We have a beautiful green courtyard garden that borders on the group areas and is surrounded by other gardens and houses. This is where we play outside every day; if the weather is good, the doors to the garden are opened so that the children can play outside. We go outside even if the weather is bad: we have enough wellies and rain gear so that everybody is well-protected if it rains. It is lovely and quiet in the garden; it is as though you are no longer in the city. There are lots of things to discover in the garden; there is a lawn, a tunnel, sandpits, climbing gear, a ship, and many things to play with outside. The children can run around, cycle, play hide and seek, go down the slide and potter about in the sandpit. They learn how to deal with the space around them and after a process of trial and error, all the children manage perfectly well. When the weather is hot, the trees and shrubs create enough pleasant shade and in the autumn the children look for chestnuts and walnuts among the fallen leaves. We also have an outside art room, where we can do handicraft with all kinds of materials.

There is even a rabbit hutch in our garden; this is where our two big rabbits live. The children help to feed the animals and to clean the hutch.

### A characteristic building

We have two spacious group areas, which are light and roomy and look out onto our beautiful green courtyard garden. We have a separate art room in which we regularly do handicraft with the children. The childcare centre is located in one of the most beautiful streets of Amsterdam, directly opposite Artis Zoo, which we visit regularly.

# **Practical information**

De Kleine Plantage has one baby group, each with 9 children aged 0-2 years and one toddler group with 15 children aged 2-4 years. There are two professional childcare workers in each group.

Opening hours: 'De Kleine Plantage' is open on work days from 8 AM to 6 PM.

You are very welcome to come and visit our childcare centre to see for yourself. Please contact our manager Anne Janszen to arrange a visit.

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#### Enrolment

You can enrol in our childcare centre via this website by clicking the red square `Enrolling directly' on the homepage.