

The Children's Storybook Garden & Museum
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Little Slugger T-Ball 2026

Parents,

Welcome to the Children's Storybook Garden Little Slugger T-Ball Session. This is a 4 week mini spring season for preschoolers. There will be two weeks of practices and two weeks of game play.

During weeks 1 and 2 the players will be learning the basics of baseball. Running bases, throwing the ball, hitting off of a tee and what equipment is required for play.

Weeks #1 and #2: Teams! Your child will be on one of four teams. The Dodgers, the Giants, Oakland A's, and the Padres. Knowing your team, cheering for your teammates and having a positive attitude is important.

Equipment: All players will need a glove, a hat, a bottle of water, and tennis shoes. Team shirts will be distributed week two.

Fundamentals: Each practice will begin with a few stretches and running in place to get them ready to move as a team.

While learning to throw and catch a ball your child will be taught to trap the ball once it hits his glove with his free hand. If your child is right-handed his glove will be worn on the left hand and vice versa. When throwing the ball, right handers step off with their left foot and throw with the right. Knowing if they are right or left-handed is important when batting. A proper grips on the bat and a nice level, forceful swing is what we want. When batting, each player will wear a batting helmet. The game ball will be a wiffle ball or a rubber ball.

Helmets are required to get the players used to wearing them. Helmets and face guards are now standard equipment in baseball to prevent injuries. Players hitting the

ball need to learn to drop the bat and quickly run to first base. This is the "main" goal. Don't be surprised if your child chases the ball. Please help him or her to first base and possibly go to second base if they are running well. There will be large orange cones at first, second, and third base as a guide.

When a team is up to bat, the players will wait for their turn by sitting on the bench(dugout). Encourage your child to cheer on their teammates.

Outfield players: the outfield will consist of a catcher, a first baseman and a second baseman. The rest of the team will be outfield and take turns scooping up the ball and running it to the first baseman. There are no outs during the game, but it is good practice for the players to learn where the ball goes after it is field-ed.

Game Days:

For each of the 4 games played, the Star Spangled Banner will be played before the game. All players will line up and put their hands over their hearts while it is being played. Then it's play ball. The first team to bat will be the visitors.

On the game schedule if your child's team is listed first, they will be up to bat. After each team has had their turn to bat, the players will form a line with their coaches and give the opposite team a good game fist bump or handshake.

A team cheer will follow this. Treats will then be distributed to all of the players for playing a good game.

On the last game day, players will receive a certificate and a special treat for participating in the league.

Words for players to remember: bench, dugout, baseball, glove, ball, helmet, team name, tee, and baseball bat.

Susie Chavez,
Little Sluggers Coordinator