

## PIONEERS PARK NATURE CENTER

3201 S. Coddington

Lincoln, NE 68502

Program Administrator: Nancy Furman

Phone: 402-441-7895

Initial site visit: February 21-22, 2007

Approximate square footage: 6,500

## DEMONSTRATION SITE OVERVIEW



### Program Overview:

At the west end of Pioneers Park stands a 668 acre Nature Center. It features eight miles of hiking trails that meander along ponds, through tall grass prairie, woodlands and wetlands, and across a stream. En route herds of bison, elk and deer roam, non-releasable raptors are on exhibit and prairies, herb, bird and butterfly gardens bloom. Two interpretive buildings contain small animal and hands-on exhibits dedicated to plants and animals of Nebraska.

Ages served: All ages

Number of children enrolled: 31-90 Preschoolers

Number of child visitors: 11,000 a year

Serve children with Special Needs: No

Serve low income children: Yes

Number of staff: 4 full time, 35 part time

### From their application:

We have been offering early childhood nature programming for many years. The Nature Center Preschool began in the fall of 2000 with one session and 11 children. Since that time it has grown to four school-year long sessions with an enrollment of 48 children per year. Our staff is deeply committed to the natural world, to active learning, and to fostering each child's strengths and potential for growth.

Pioneers Park Nature Center has been a pioneer in nature education since its founding in 1963. We are open to the public daily except for major holidays. Because there is no admission fee, all citizens of the surrounding area can easily make use of our resources.



# Pioneer Park Summer, 2007



Entrance Area



Digging Area



Digging Area & table



Tree Cookies



Sand Area

Outdoor Classroom Tour, NeAEEYC Conference, July, 2008



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