

# Maxine Dickey

As a young girl growing up in England I have always had an interest in little children. I remember being in high school and volunteering in a play school. Yes, that's what pre-school is called in the U.K! I can look back at that time with fondness and now here I am eighteen years into my career as a preschool teacher in a play based school doing all the things I began to learn many years ago but now fully understanding why I do what I do on a daily basis.

I feel extremely humbled when I stop to think about the power and influence I can have on a human life at such a young age. What we say and do on a daily basis can make such a powerful difference in a little person's life.

Everyday I arrive at work not knowing what my day may bring.. Life in a 3 year old classroom is always very unpredictable. No matter how your mood is everything is good after you experience that first hug of the day. The day then proceeds in a flurry of activity. At the end of the day I get in my car feeling exhausted, dirty and elated because I know the children in my care go home feeling exactly the same as me exhausted, dirty, elated and ready to come back in the morning to do it all over again!!

My definition of relaxation involves the beach, a good book and a fishing pole in no particular order! I grew up in a seaside town and since living here in the States have spent extended periods of time in Galveston and the surrounding costal area with my family. There is something majestic and calming for my body and soul when I visit the coast. I feel that I can breathe and my heart and mind connect and brings me an inner peace. The added benefit of catching supper is always a wonderful way to end my perfect day!

I'm honored to be a part of the Blossom Heights family. To work with families that believe in the power of play and a staff that are committed to what they do everyday. I am very excited to think of what is to come as we move forward in this next phase in the life of this little haven that has been created named Blossom Heights.

