



2017-2018

**FACULTY**



# Our Teachers

---

## Educating, encouraging, inspiring....and always learning

At Costa Rica International Academy we believe in fostering a love of life-long learning and the idea that learning should be engaging, challenging, relevant and fun. Through the teaching at CRIA, students are equipped with the skills, knowledge and understanding to prepare them to make meaningful contributions to the world. We believe that through a structured plan for teaching and learning our students will be prepared to lead fulfilling and rewarding lives.

## Administration

---



**Ms. Lois Maré**  
Director

**Nationality:** Canada

**Qualifications:**

- Bachelor of Education - University of Manitoba
- K-12 teaching certification
- Master of Arts in Curriculum and Teaching - Michigan State University
- Teacher of English as a Second Language Certification - College of New Jersey
- Certification in International School Leadership - The Principals' Training Center

I returned to CRIA 3 years ago mainly because our school's philosophy reflects my educational beliefs and values. High standards are aligned with best practice in teaching strategies and methods. Our school community believes:

- Every child has innate potential; every child has strengths to build upon;
- Achievement has many dimensions;
- Academic success is very important yet it is not the only path to success;
- It is our duty in schools to help parents and children find and develop their strengths

I am proud to be leading an incredible team of professionals dedicated to student success.



**Ms. Tyra Bauer**  
Curriculum & Learning Director

**Nationality:** United States

**Qualifications:**

- Master of Secondary Education – Regis University
- Colorado Professional Teaching License
- Bachelor of Science in Business (Accounting) – Eastern Illinois University

I have been working at CRIA for 7 years as a secondary school teacher and joined the administration team last year. My educational philosophy aligns with CRIA's mission of inspiring a passion for learning and developing responsible leaders. It is an honor for me to help lead a team to create a world-class international school with a culture of high expectations, high performance, and accountability.



**Ms. Vera Naranjo**  
**Operations Manager**

**Nationality:** Costa Rica

**Qualifications:**

- Diploma in Tourist Activities and Tourist Companies, Colegio de Universitario de Cartago
- BA in Hotel Administration, Universidad Hispanoamericana



**Ms. Margarita Elizondo**  
**Financial Manager**

**Nationality:** Costa Rica

**Qualifications:**

- Bachillerato en Administración de Hoteles y Restaurantes. ULACIT, Costa Rica
- Maestría en la enseñanza del español como lengua extranjera, Universidad de León, España
- Diplomado en Administración de Negocios, UNED, Costa Rica (en proceso)



**Ms. Rebeca Zuniga**  
**Administrative Assistant**

**Nationality:** Costa Rica

**Qualifications:**

- Bachillerato in Business Administration Universidad Latina de Costa Rica
- Currently coursing Licenciatura in Marketing Universidad Libre de Costa Rica



**Ms. Susy Parkinson**  
**Receptionist**

**Nationality:** Costa Rica

**Qualifications:**

- Bachillerato en educación media primer y segundo ciclo completo.
- 14 years experience in customer service



**Ms. Ana Isabel Vieira**  
**Toddler (Bilingual)**

**Nationality: Colombia**

**Qualifications:**

- Production Engineering, EAFIT University
- MBA, Southern New Hampshire University
- Montessori Teacher, NAMC

As an educator, I believe each young learner is a unique individual who needs a safe and nurturing environment in order to grow emotionally, intellectually, physically and socially. It is my desire to help students reach their full potential in these areas. In this environment, the teacher acts as a facilitator and allows the child`s natural curiosity to direct his/her learning and promotes respect for all things and people.

---



**Ms. Gloriana Cortés**  
**Pre-Kinder (Bilingual)**

**Nationality: Costa Rica**

**Qualifications:**

- Bachelor of Bilingual Preschool Education at Universidad Latina de Costa Rica
- C1 Level of TOEIC

I believe that children are trying to absorb as much knowledge as they can, so I like to provide a rich environment for them to discover themselves, and give them the tools to deal with whatever they may encounter in their way. I like to take advantage of that need of learning and need of contact, to give them as much as I can to provide their curiosity. I will teach children by experimenting for themselves every new experience, creating a safe place for them to grow and be able to understand what surrounds them. By stimulating them, my goal is to create curious thinkers, and children who lead.

---



**Ms. Sara Robles**  
**Kindergarten (Bilingual)**  
**Bilingual Coordinator**

**Nationality: United States**

**Qualifications:**

- Adjunct Faculty, Erikson Institute
- Master of Early Childhood Education, Erikson Institute
- Illinois State Teaching Certificate, ISBE
- English as a Second Language Endorsement, Illinois
- Bilingual Education Endorsement, Illinois
- Certified, Montessori Directress, American Montessori Society
- Bachelor Degree, Liberal Arts, The Evergreen State College, WA
- Early Childhood Vocational Certificate, ECC, IL

I have been fortunate to teach in many settings, both public and private, learning from students and families with diverse backgrounds. I am committed to bilingual education and am thrilled to be part of the Bilingual Program at CRIA. I have found integrated, concrete learning experiences to be essential in helping children make meaningful connections as they learn multiple languages. In the early years, children thrive through the use of movement and music, while fostering a sense of responsibility and community.



---

## **Ms. Flor de Maria Zamora Cespedes**

### **Grade 1A (Bilingual)**

**Nationality:** Costa Rica

**Qualifications:**

- Bachelor of Arts, Preschool Education, Universidad de Costa Rica
- North Carolina Professional Teaching License, Primary
- English as a Second Language Certification

I believe that teaching is a great privilege, a great trust and a great joy. Children deserve respect, we learn from them every day; their needs come first. Children learn faster when they dramatize and experience the concepts. All students are different; they learn at a different rate and have different learning styles. As an educator, I must provide students with the tools, a variety of activities and support as needed. All students are capable of learning if they are exposed to the concepts in a variety of ways, using the materials and strategies that will help them meet their goals. A secure, caring, and stimulating atmosphere is important to help students gain confidence, grow emotionally and intellectually. As a teacher, I need to provide an environment that is safe and inviting so students can share their ideas and their needs. As a leader, I must provide students the technology, and the tools that will help them become responsible citizens and leaders, preparing them for life in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Making students aware that being bilingual is important. I teach them that this will help them open more horizons to become global ambassadors. They will have more opportunities in their future whenever they go to college and become professionals.

---



## **Ms. Natalie Montella**

### **Grade 1B (Bilingual)**

**Nationality:** United States

**Qualifications:**

- Bachelor's of Arts in International Relations and Elementary Education Certificate, at Drexel University
- US Teaching Fellow (Philadelphia)

I have taught elementary school since 2009 and have had the great pleasure of teaching first grade for over half of my career. First grade is a big and exciting year! I believe that lifelong learning starts with nurturing curiosity and love of the subjects. All students can excel! I encouraged tons of questions, and students will engage by using many learning styles, as well as hands on activities. The class will share ideas by working collaboratively, and most importantly will have fun while developing a deep love of learning.

---



## **Ms. Kristina Losasso**

### **Grade 2**

**Nationality:** United States

**Qualifications:**

- Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education, York College of Pennsylvania
- Teaching License – New Jersey & Pennsylvania

I believe in creating a positive and fun learning environment in my classroom. I aim to make students feel comfortable and at home when they are with me at school. My hope is to educate the whole child, focusing both on academics and character. I believe every child can learn and thrive when given encouragement and the right tools.



**Ms. Adriane Guinn**  
**Grade 3A**

**Nationality: United States**

**Qualifications:**

- Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology, University of Houston
- Teaching Certification EC-4, ESL

My aim as a teacher is to create a safe, collaborative learning environment, where the student can feel inspired and driven to reach their full academic and personal goals. I believe that every child has the capability to receive the vital skills that are necessary to live a happy and successful life, when given opportunity to grow and achieve. In my class, I encourage my students to wonder, ask questions, solve problems, collaborate, and to gain perspective of others' thoughts and opinions. I believe that learning occurs when the student is fully engaged and able to make connections, and apply what they've learned in their everyday life. As an educator, my goal for my students and my hope for them is to achieve these skills in their academic careers.

---



**Ms. Stephanie Burghart**  
**Grade 3B**

**Nationality: United States**

**Qualifications:**

- Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education, Wichita State University, USA
- Masters of Science in Education in Curriculum & Instruction with an emphasis in ESL, Newman University, USA
- Full ESL Endorsement
- Early Childhood Endorsement

As an educator, I foster an environment that is kind, trusting, and supportive. I believe in creating class families where we use questioning as a tool and feel safe to take risks. I give students the tools and strategies they need to grow as readers, writers, scientists, mathematicians, explorers, philosophers, and problem solvers. I design and differentiate instruction, so each student learns and works toward their goals and potential. I look for opportunities to model, practice, encourage, and create a growth mindset environment in which every child feels listened to, encouraged, and motivated to be their best self every day.

---



**Ms. Katie Jones**  
**Grade 4A**

**Nationality: Canada**

**Qualifications:**

- Bachelor of Education, University of Windsor
- Bachelor of Arts in Child Psychology, University of Windsor
- Early Childhood Education Diploma, St. Clair College

In my classroom I aim to inspire students to be lovers of learning. In order to do this I engage the students in a variety of activities that meet all learning styles. These activities are often tied to hands on and real world connections to aid student understanding. As a fourth grade teacher I strive to instill responsibility and perseverance throughout the year as students mature and grow.



## **Ms. Jessie Horcher**

**Grade 4B**

**Nationality: United States**

**Qualifications:**

- Bachelor of Science in Elementary & Special Education, Indiana University

As a teacher my mission is to instill a love of learning in students through growing to understand people, cultures, and our world. I value individual diversities each student brings. I believe in educating the whole child by promoting academic, social, and emotional growth. I believe that by developing skills related to collaboration, critical thinking and problem solving, students will be prepared for success in their future.

---



## **Ms. Jaclyn Kelly**

**Grade 5A**

**Nationality: United States**

**Qualifications:**

- Bachelor of Psychology, Ramapo College of New Jersey
- Elementary Education K-5, Ramapo College of New Jersey
- Masters of Special Education/Autism (current program), Monmouth University

My educational philosophy focuses around student engagement and differentiation. In my classroom, the children are challenged to work both independently and cooperatively using different levels of thinking. We work on shaping the whole child, and not solely focusing on the academic aspect of their life. Our kids grow to become little humans and at the end of the day, it is most important to be a good person. My lessons are shaped around all different styles of learning and I love to keep my students laughing. If they are laughing, they are learning.

---



## **Ms. Lori Rill**

**Grade 5B**

**Nationality: United States**

**Qualifications:**

- Masters of Arts in Teaching, Pacific University
- Bachelor of Arts, Gonzaga University
- Post Graduate Certificate in TESOL, Seattle University

I believe every student has the ability to succeed when nurtured and supported. I strive to facilitate this by creating a positive classroom environment to ensure all students feel safe to learn and take risks. One of the most important aspects of my job is to equip students to be life-long learners and responsible global citizens with the tools to solve problems, work together and communicate effectively. Challenging students to work on collaborative and creative projects throughout the school year achieves this.

# Secondary School

---



**Ms. Tyra Bauer**  
**Mathematics & AP Calculus**  
Curriculum Director

**Nationality: United States**

**Qualifications:**

- Master of Secondary Education – Regis University
- Colorado Professional Teaching License
- Bachelor of Science in Business – Eastern Illinois University
- College Board Advanced Placement Calculus Training

I am a passionate and driven educator with experience teaching both math and business courses. Challenging students to look beyond the how and discover the why inspires them to become life-long learners. My teaching style engages students through the use of technology, online videos, discovery learning, graphic organizers, real world applications, projects, and fun activities that reinforce what they learn.

---



**Mr. Chris Crabtree**  
**English and Social Studies**

**Nationality: United States**

**Qualifications:**

- B.A. World Religions, Franklin College, Franklin, Indiana, USA
- M.A. Educational Leadership, Framingham State University, Framingham, Massachusetts, USA

I have a passion for reading and writing. My students will recognize that baseline fact immediately. I love the *Classics* and my challenge is to teach them in a fresh and meaningful way. I love to discuss critical issues with young people, to listen to their opinions, and to challenge them. My classroom is a safe place where asking the right questions is every bit as important as finding the right answers.

---



**Ms. Jen Graham**  
**Health, English, Speech, & Drama**  
Guidance & College Counselor

**Nationality: Canada**

**Qualifications:**

- Honors Bachelor of Arts in Social Development Studies (Social Work, Psychology, Sociology) - University of Waterloo, Ontario, Canada
- Bachelor of Education - Nipissing University, Ontario, Canada
- Certified K-12, with 13 years of teaching experience
- Specialist certification in Health & Physical Education K-12
- Additional Qualification courses in Vocal Music, Drama, and Guidance & Careers

The most important role of a teacher is to inspire the young minds of today to be tomorrow's problem solvers and leaders. It is key that we teach our students to think globally, to develop their individual voices, and to become critical thinkers. I strive to create an inclusive, supportive, and positive environment where I foster individual growth and encourage my students to become lifelong learners. I believe it is essential to create a welcoming community and a mutually respectful learning environment that promotes maximum student engagement during lessons. I try my best to implement lessons that are creative, hands-on, collaborative, relevant, technology driven, and contain real life applications. As a teacher my goal is to provide a safe, enjoyable, comfortable, and challenging learning environment. I strive to help my students recognize their strengths as well as weaknesses, and become well-rounded learners and individuals.





---

**Ms. Wendy Jensen**  
**English & Social Studies**

**Nationality: United States**

**Qualifications:**

- BA Cultural Anthropology, University of California, Santa Cruz CA
- MA Special Education, Santa Clara University CA
- Teaching Certificate K-8 California Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo CA
- Teaching Certificate 9-12 Social Studies, English, ELL, Concordia University, Portland OR

I have embraced the Constructivist, student-centered pedagogical approach since I began my career as an educator. I value my students' opinions and experiences and I utilize these views to challenge them (and myself), to reach outside our comfort levels and to hone our skills in new directions. I believe every student can learn and I believe that learning should be fun. I aspire to make certain that every student in my classroom knows that I care about them and that I will always do my best to help them succeed. I teach to the whole child, for the academic aspect is just a small part of the educational experience. As I connect with my students, I help them to connect with their learning. I strive to teach them to learn empathy and connect to the reality of the experiences of the people we study. History is not just reading about the past, it's a window into our current reality, it's about community and shared ideals. Literature isn't simply a story, it is a reflection of all our lives, our experiences, and our cultures. My students learn how to analyze information, articulate their thoughts, and understand the cause and effect relationships from the past. I endeavor to teach my students to engage with the material, and I help them hone the skills to enable them to access the content with confidence.

---



**Mr. Joseph Jones**  
**Science, Math, Computers, and Photography**

**Nationality: Canada**

**Qualifications:**

- Bachelor of Fine Arts & Bachelor of Education, University of Windsor
- Early Childhood Education, St. Clair College

My classroom culture is one of high expectations for my students, but also for myself. My students respect me because I respect them. I work hard for them, so they work hard for me. It is easy to be a child's favorite teacher, but it takes persistence and dedication to be their BEST teacher.

---



**Ms. Pauli Kufner**  
**Science & AP Biology**

**Nationality: United States**

**Qualifications:**

- Bachelor in Secondary Education of Science & Technology, McGill University
- Master of Arts in Teaching Biology, Bard College

With several teachers in my family, I grew up in a setting where the teaching profession is regarded with great respect. Over the years this has nurtured a continuously growing ambition in me to be an effective and creative pedagogue. Coming from a multicultural background, I recognize from personal experience what it is like to think, interpret, learn, and express oneself in ways that differ from those around you. I use this as a driving force, to always remain innovative and flexible to the needs of my students as individual thinkers. My goal is that an excitement for learning itself, for curiosity and critical thought, is practiced and enjoyed by my students; and I use my genuinely endless passion for the thrills of science to foster it.



---

## **Mr. Blake Ramsey**

### **History & Business**

**Nationality: United States**

**Qualifications:**

- Bachelors of Science, Interdisciplinary Studies, Texas State University – San Marcos
- Generalist EC-4
- Generalist 4-8
- Physical Education EC-12
- Health EC-12
- Social Studies Composite 8-12

I believe in creating a positive and safe learning environment where students can transform into responsible and respectful citizens who value life-long learning. The best way to achieve this type of environment is through mutual respect, a positive attitude, and high expectations. It is important for teachers, parents, and students to collaborate with one another in order to create a positive learning environment to ensure that everyone grows and improves. I also believe that we are responsible for our actions and we are in control of our outcomes. Life is not about what happens to us, but how we respond to events that take place in our lives.

---



## **Mr. Marc Shulz**

### **Science, Mathematics, & AP Environmental Science**

**Nationality: United States**

**Qualifications:**

- BS in Science - Juniata College
- Certificate of Secondary Education - Ferris State University
- Master in Management - Aquinas College
- Certificate of Educational Technology - Michigan State University

I primarily utilize a Problem Based framework to engage my students. It naturally integrates three instructional components that are at the heart of my teaching philosophy: student-inquiry, personalized learning, and the gradual release of responsibility. As a teacher, it is my role to facilitate the path to knowledge through creating an environment that is supportive, yet challenging. It is my hope that every student leaves my classroom with the confidence to work with others, to share their ideas, and to be solution-focused!

---



## **Mr. Enoch Thweatt**

### **Mathematics & AP Statistics**

**Nationality: United States**

**Qualifications:**

- Bachelor of Arts, 1985, from Harding University, Searcy, Arkansas, with a major in Mathematics and a Minor in Physical Education
- 36 hours, from Southwest Community College, Memphis, Tennessee in Computer Science
- 140+ hours of APSI training in AP Statistics and AP Calculus
- MAT in Mathematics, 2011, from Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, Tennessee

With access to information literally at our fingertips, the sky truly is the limit for our students. My goal is for students to become lifelong learners. I strive to build a classroom environment centered on mutual respect and trust between student and teacher and student to student. Students will work individually as well as in collaborative groups; they will become fluent with technology and with traditional methods of computation, problem solving and communication; and they will be prepared for what follows in college and future careers.

# Spanish Language

---



## **Mr. Jose Paniagua** Native & AP Spanish

**Nationality:** Costa Rica

**Qualifications:**

- Licenciatura en docencia, Universidad Metropolitana, San José - Costa Rica
- Especialista en Evaluación de Impacto Ambiental, Universidad Internacional Iberoamericana, Arecibo - Puerto Rico
- Bachiller en Geografía, Universidad de Costa Rica, San José - Costa Rica

I am a teacher who has worked in education since 2008 in Costa Rica. I have experience working with students of different ages in elementary school and high school. In my educational philosophy the main protagonist is the student. In addition, I believe in cooperative work between students. In this environment, the teacher acts as a facilitator, this way, I create a positive and fun learning environment in the classroom.

---



## **Ms. Neida Escalera** Art, CRSS, Intermediate & Advanced Spanish

**Nationality:** Bolivia

**Qualifications:**

- Católica Boliviana Educación Inicial, Bachillerato
- Licenciatura en la Normal Enrique Finot

Tengo más de 25 años de experiencia como educadora, los últimos años he trabajado como maestra de español en segunda lengua son: Country Day School Guanacaste (5 años), La Paz Community School (8 años) y actualmente este será mi segundo año enseñando en CRIA. Mi filosofía es que los niños puedan aprender a través de experiencias vivenciales, donde no sólo obtengan conocimiento sino desarrollen valores y se diviertan aprendiendo.

---



## **Ms. Andrea Esquivel** Advanced & Native Spanish

**Nationality:** Costa Rica

**Qualifications:**

- Diploma in Preschool Universidad Estatal a Distancia
- BA. Primary English Education major at the Universidad Estatal a Distancia.
- Licenciatura en docencia (in progress) Universidad Estatal a Distancia

I have been teaching for 10 years at CRIA. I am a teacher with experience working with students of different ages, for early years to high school. I encourage my students to learn Spanish in multiple ways and to recognize that learning a new language is very beneficial for their lives. I want my students to be inspired and able to apply everything they learn in class in their daily lives. My goal is to be a bridge between my students and a new world full of opportunities.

Constantly I am impressed by what students can achieve. They prove to themselves that they are capable of speaking a second or even a third language. In my class my students will learn in a fun and challenging environment that promotes commitment and success.



## **Ms. Flory Meins** **Beginner Spanish & Library Coordinator**

**Nationality:** Costa Rica

**Qualifications:**

- Bachelor degree in Psychology, Colegio Monterrey, Costa Rica
- Bachelor of Education. El Camino College, California

My educational philosophy is to guide the students, providing access to information rather than acting as the primary source of information. I believe that students are unique in their own way, and each one of them brings something special to the world. My goal is to motivate the students and create an environment that encourages learning Spanish through many different mediums. I want my students to be inspired and motivated to learn and, furthermore, I want them to be able to apply everything they learn to their everyday lives. My role as the teacher is to help them to meet their full potential, providing a stimulating, respectful and safe atmosphere.

---



## **Ms. Cindy Otárola** **CRSS, Beginner & Intermediate Spanish**

**Nationality:** Costa Rica

**Qualifications:**

- BA. Primary English Education major at the University of Costa Rica.
- Licenciatura en Lengua Inglesa. University of Costa Rica. (en curso)
- Lic. Primary English Education major at the Universidad Estatal a Distancia.

I am a teacher with experience working with students of different ages, for early years to young adults and adults. In the development of my classes, I believe that students should be given the opportunity to develop their academic and personal skills that can be used lifelong. As part of my job, I like to provide the students an environment in which the process of learning for the students is fun and interesting, where they can build their knowledge and at the same time have the opportunity to exchange life experiences, opinions, ideas, among others. I encourage them to be active participants in the teaching-learning process. What I like about being a teacher is that in my job I am constantly learning and growing every day.

---

## **Specialists**

---



## **Mr. Andrés Fernández** **Music**

**Nationality:** Cuba

**Qualifications:**

- Bachillerato en Jazz, Conservatorio Real de Antwerpen –Bélgica
- Licenciatura en música y profesor de trombón, Instituto Superior de Artes La Habana-Cuba
- Licenciatura en música en el perfil de trombón, Universidad de Costa Rica

I am a professional musician with 15 years of work experience in different stages of the world and music academies in Cuba, Europe and Costa Rica. Music is the best language I can speak and transmit my knowledge to the new generation is part of my life. I love my profession and being able to interact with different cultures responds to my main objective as an educator, to bring students to the wonderful world of the international language of music.



## Mr. Jorge Jáen Hernandez

### Art

**Nationality:** Costa Rica

**Qualifications:**

- Bachelor of Visual Arts Education, University of Costa Rica
- Bachelor of Visual Arts: Emphasis in Sculptural Design, University of Costa Rica

Art is an important part of every human being; we all have artistic skills that are sometimes, unfortunately, lost throughout the growing up process. I believe the key to maintaining our natural artistic abilities is to have a positive relationship with art, avoiding comparison of artwork and skills, recognizing that our art is unique as each one of us.

During my art classes I teach different artistic techniques, concepts, theories, history, however for me, the most important knowledge I pass on to the students is to believe in themselves and to feel free to express their thoughts, ideas and feelings through art.

---



## Ms. Kelley Keenan

### ELL & Learning Support

**Nationality:** United States

**Qualifications:**

- State of Texas License: Early Childhood – 12<sup>th</sup> Special Education
- State of Texas Certification (with ELL Component): Early Childhood-6<sup>th</sup> Grade Generalist
- Pursuing TESOL Certification
- TELPAS Certified (Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System)
- University of Texas at Austin: B.A., Liberal Arts
- Alternative Certification: Texas Teachers.org.

I am a firm believer that learning is an experience that never ends, whatever the age or circumstance in life. Mistakes are part of the learning process; consequently, I strive to create a learning environment in which there is no fear of failure. Every single one of us learns in a different manner and at a different pace, and no way or speed is better than another. I believe that a teacher is not one who merely performs in front of a class, but shows a student how to think. I value creativity, patience, respect, and dignity in every aspect of the teaching profession.

---



## Mr. Diego Matarrita

### Physical Education

**Nationality:** Costa Rica

**Qualifications:**

- Bachiller en Educación Física. Universidad Autónoma de Centroamérica.
- Licenciatura en Educación Física, Universidad Autónoma de Centroamérica.

Mi experiencia laboral ha sido con estudiantes de edades tempranas: materno, pre kínder, kínder, primaria, así como también secundaria. Mis clases están basadas en los fundamentos de los diferentes movimientos y habilidades motoras que se desarrollan día a día. El propósito de mis clases es ayudar al desenvolvimiento motor para que los estudiantes puedan ejecutar de la mejor forma los movimientos a futuro.

# Assistants

---



**Ms. Julieth Ortiz**  
**Pre-Kinder and Kindergarten (Bilingual)**

**Nationality:** Costa Rica

**Qualifications:**

- Bachillerato en Educación Media, Liceo Académico de Belén
- Diplomado Educación Preescolar, UNED (Carrera en Curso)

I am a professional with a high disposition to learn and exchange knowledge and experiences. I am responsible, creative, well organized, proactive, perseverant, with good interpersonal relations and enjoy interacting with people.

As an educator I believe in dynamic and participatory learning that allows the child to discover and gradually develop their potential and their unique and irreplaceable personality. Music and games are part of my teaching methodology making each class a space full of expectations for something new to learn. I provide them experiences that promote their individual expressions, leaving the old concept of a boring teaching-learning process aside. I firmly believe that a smile and a big hug are as important in the classroom as at home, giving to kids the confidence to be themselves in the classroom and that every day is a new opportunity to improve.

---



**Ms. Cindy Navarrette**  
**Toddler (Bilingual)**

**Nationality:** Costa Rica

**Qualifications:**

- Sexto Año de Escuela
- Escuela Dionisio Leal Vallejos



**Ms. Isabela Juarez**  
**Toddler (Bilingual)**

**Nationality:** Costa Rica

**Qualifications:**

- Bachillerato de Educación Media Completo, Colegio Técnico Profesional de Santa Cruz
- Diplomado Educación Preescolar, UNED (Carrera en Curso)



**Ms. Sarah Leal**  
**Pre-Kinder (Bilingual)**

**Nationality:** Costa Rica

**Qualifications:**

- Bachillerato en educación 1 y 2 ciclo
- 10 años de experiencia en enseñanza.



**Ms. Maria Zapata**  
**Kindergarten (Bilingual)**

**Nationality:** Costa Rica

**Qualifications:**

- Currently completing Bacherillato in Educación Prescolar at UNED, Costa Rica
  - Studied at Servicio Nacional de Aprendizaje Antioquia, Colombia
-