



## Baby day care business booms in Koramangala

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Day cares and montessori's options are umpteen in Koramangala but to be a cut above the rest these institutions are coming up with newer ideas and introducing new concepts to make the offer attractive to the IT parents crowd who might not get too much time at home to teach their kids things beyond academics.



(Day cares and montessori's options...)

Teaching just alphabets or numbers in school is passe-martial arts, language sessions, art and craft, pottery are the new offers made. [Little Paradise](#) on the fourth block of Koramangala believes that pre-school should mean holistic learning and is the best time to develop knack for curricular activities. Clay modelling, spray painting, blotch painting, collage work, finger painting, vegetable painting, guitar training, piano and drum sessions are few among the many interesting activities on offer at Little Paradise. Karate and Yoga are also the two other major attractions at play schools and day cares.

[Maple Bear](#) at 5th Block of Koramangala, on the other hand, encourages kids to be a little more adventurous. There is a sand and water centre filled with cups and spoons and funnels that allow children to measure and experiment with volume. Then there is also a science and exploration centre that has rocks, nests, insects, bones and shells and children are given, magnets, balances and magnifying glasses to make their way through these and have fun with safe nature elements.

Maple Bear is a Canadian franchisee which opened in Koramangala two years ago. The monthly fee here is Rs 8,300, which varies according to the number of hours; the kids spend at the school premises. "We have seen tremendous growth in the past two years. We started with three kids and now we have 53 children," says Sakina Husain, principal, Maple Bear.

"All parents want to give their children the best and people prefer curricular activities a lot these days but it is difficult for working parents to pick up and drop kids to various classes so we have all the facilities under one roof," says Husain and adds that the day care centres have also generated jobs for [stay-at-home moms](#). "We prefer hiring mothers as they connect very well with kids. They just need to be graduates," she says.

Meena Devi Sood, who started [Planet Bloomdale](#) 12 years ago in Koramangala also agrees that play schools with lots of activities are always a cut above the regular short time play schools. This 4th block day care apart from the usual activity offerings also puts together summer camps.

"We teach children basic table manners and help them in doing their homework. We have drawn a timetable, which includes rest, play time, snack time etc. Kids also learn to socialise with other kids," said Sood.

Keeping to the trend is another institution called VIVERO International Pre School. Here children between 18 months and six years of age are enrolled and made to enjoy the experience of learning. They not only concentrate on sports for the pupil's physical fitness but also teach and train children in foreign languages.