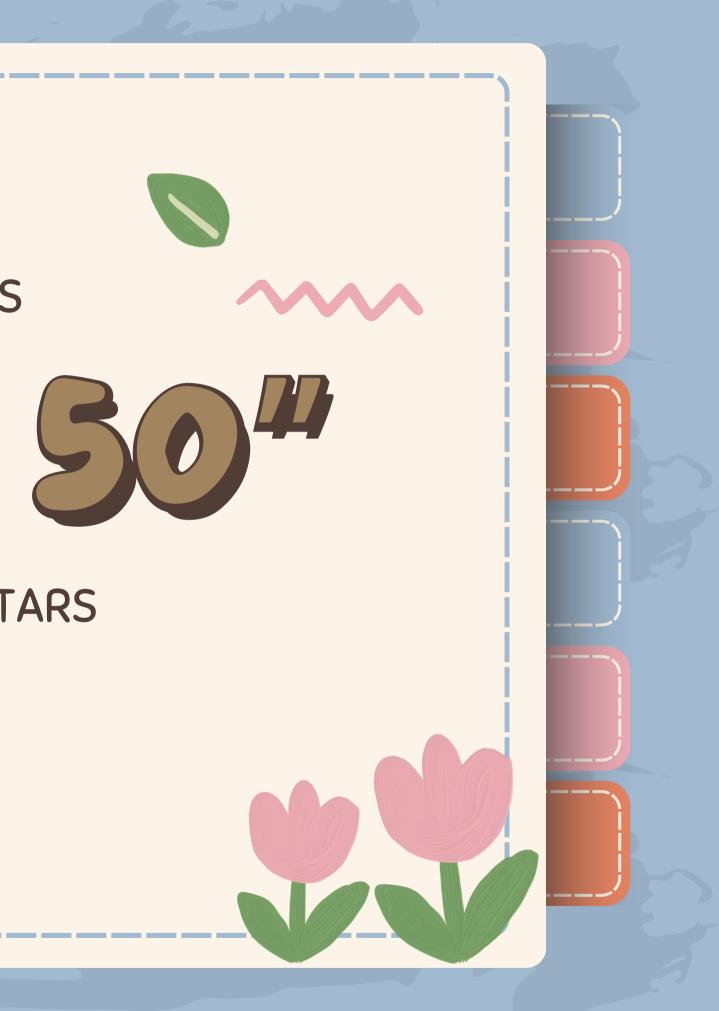
SOUTHPORT FUNDAMENTALS

OUR FIRST 50 REVIEWS, ALL 5-STARS



THANK YOU FOR 50 REVIEWS!

Southport Fundamentals would like to thank you all for your continued support! We're thrilled to have such a dedicated community standing behind us. Your encouragement and involvement have been invaluable in helping us reach new heights. As we move forward, we remain committed to providing exceptional service and opportunities for growth. Stay tuned for exciting updates and events in the near future.



KATEW

We had a great time at Southport FUNDAMENTALS! It was the perfect place to host our daughter's third birthday. Risa was wonderful to work with and let us do basically anything we wanted for food, decor and entertainment, which was the exact kind of flexibility we were looking for.

The space is deceptively huge, as there is a large basement play area and kitchen /eat-in area as well as other hang out spots, and the perfect quiet corner for one of our littlest guests to take a nap during the festivities. There were so many fun toys to play with and games to play our large group of toddlers and preschoolers were engaged every minute. Would love to come back to this space for other events and playtimes, and would definitely host here again!



CAITLINL

We hosted the best 2nd birthday party at Southport FUNdamentals! The space was great for our party, which included kids of all ages. Moms and babies got to play on the floor with developmentally appropriate toys while the older kids ran around and enjoyed the space. Party flowed from floor to floor. Brought our own food and drink (BYOB) and had a great time. Risa was awesome and helped the party flow nicely. She was so incredibly easy to work with during set up and clean up as well. Very easy going, go with the flow event space. Good time was had by all!

DANIEL SB

I'm only leaving 5 stars bc Google won't let me leave 6 stars. Thanks to Southport Fundamentals for giving our daughter a truly magical birthday!!! We hosted 25 children + 22 adults, and with two floors of open play awesomeness (and a full kitchen) we DID NOT feel cramped, nor short on space- everything was just perfect!! Having a blank canvas with their choose-your-own-adventure approach was ideal for both kiddos & grown-ups alike. Several of the parents also shared their appreciation for Southport Fundaments having two private little "zen-zones" secluded away on each floor... it really helped calm some anxieties & settledown feelings of overwhelm by some of our little partygoers. As a host, it was amazing being able to utilize the party room's entire kitchen for pizza & cupcakes, and ESPECIALLY their full-sized refrigerator, which eliminated any concerns about keeping drinks cold. Hands down, there is no better place in Chicago to host a kid's birthday party than Southport Fundaments... and Ms. Risa gives the best birthday hugs!!!

ALEXA K

We just had our son's 2nd birthday party at Southport FUNdamentals & couldn't recommend it enough! What a dream to have time to actually talk to our friends during a birthday party because our kids were all so engaged and playing nicely with all the toys. We had taken him for open play before and he didn't want to leave, same was true this time. Upstairs has lovevery play kit toys, a child sized piano, a play kitchen, etc. Downstairs has lots of toy vehicles, barbie's, pop up tunnels to crawl through, etc. It is great for all ages and very affordable!! We have several of the same toys at home and he never touches them but here is interested in them again because they are out, inviting and displayed so nicely. Risa (the owner) is extremely accommodating. We had a veggie straw/goldfish "spill" during the party and she gave us a vacuum to quickly rid the space of the mess. She even gave us a silent one at first in case some children would be scared of the noise the louder vacuum makes. Another example of her kindness – my dad said he wished we had brought name tags so he could remember everyone's names. Risa then found some that she had and proceeded to walk around the party with a clipboard and sharpie handing them out to people. This is such a small thing but it made a huge difference for my older parents who did not want to feel silly forgetting some of our friends or their children's names that they had met several times before. I was also 39 weeks pregnant during the party with our second and Risa at one point after setting up encouraged me to sit down and rest/have a snack. So thoughtful of her, from one mom to another. We will definitely be back!!

RONIT A

An awesome awesome awesome space! We threw a double birthday party and Risa helped us plan, set up and run the event. She was incredible - accommodating, reassuring and 100% a pleasure to work with. The play space is every kid's dream. We had over 20 kids at the party, ranging from several months to 5 yo, and all had a blast. I even got to speak to adults during my kids' party since everything was seamless! This is just an incredible neighborhood gem. No matter what you do there- a class, a party, it will surely be wonderful. Thank you for everything Risa!



ELIZABETHL

We love this place! It's such a great concept, conveniently located in the neighborhood and they have something for everyone! Risa made the party planning process super smooth and easy! We had kids and adults aged baby to 76 and everyone had a blast! 10/10 recommend this for your next birthday party, event or rainy day play space. Thank you!

MOLLY W

So glad to have this space back open! I rented it out for my son's 2nd birthday party. We had a great experience and would highly recommend. The kids loved racing around the open space and exploring all of the toys. The toddlers loved climbing through the tunnels. The adults enjoyed the space to gather in the party room. As the host, I had a terrific experience! The owner allowed me to drop in early to store some of my supplies in the fridge. She was very helpful during the party supplying me with things I'd forgotten and checking in to ensure all was well. I look forward to dropping in for classes in the future. As I was dropping things off, there was a cute baby sign language class taking place. The environment is so fresh, clean, and calm! Welcome to the neighborhood, Southport Fundamentals!

KAITLIN F

I recently hosted my son's second birthday party at Southport Fundamental, and I couldn't have been more pleased with the experience. Risa (and her cute daughter) was a pleasure to work with! She was attentive, helpful, and very responsive. She's also just a lovely person – she checked in with me a handful of times to make sure I was doing okay or if she could get me something to eat. The venue itself was much larger than I was expecting! It had two floors with a variety of toys/things to do. The kids made a mess, which is a sign they had fun!!! Overall, our experience at Southport Fundamentals exceeded all expectations. Risa has done an amazing job with the space and was a PLEASURE to work with. I would highly recommend this venue to anyone looking to host a special event. We can't wait to return for future celebrations!!!

CHRISTIN S

We recently hosted my daughter's unicorn-themed birthday party at Southport Fundamentals and it was amazing. We could invite the whole preschool group and didn't have to worry about space for parents and siblings. There is plenty of space to mingle and eat and even more space for the children to play! Kids of all ages had fun, everyone enjoyed it and didn't want to leave. We could bring all the decoration and food we wanted and could even drop it off in advance which made things so much easier for us. The owner Risa was very helpful with planning and answering questions in advance and when it was time for the party she had great advice on how to best set up everything for the needs of our group. She is very thoughtful and even made sure that mom is in pictures too and has a coffee! Thank you Risa for making sure it was a wonderful day for all of us! We also love open play and the group classes at Southport FUNdamentals a lot!



LAURA F

We hosted our baby's first birthday at Southport Fundamentals. We were so pleased with everything! Risa helped us with everything from decorating, timing out the party, gift placement and showing our guests where to find everything. It was absolutely a perfect space and I'd highly recommend it to anyone looking for a party space in the neighborhood.

BRITTANY D

We had a wonderful experience hosting our son's 5th birthday party at Southport Fundamentals. The space was perfect for his whole class plus siblings and parents to come. The space has 2 levels which was great for older/younger kids to have their own space away from the preK kids. Risa, owner of Southport Fundamentals, was hugely helpful throughout the entire process. She allowed us to drop off large items the day before the party and even ensured all our beverages were transferred to the fridge so they would be cold for our party. She allowed us 30 minutes to set up before the party and jumped right in to make sure we were ready to go on time. She helped hang up the birthday sign, opened all the plates, napkins, transferred juice boxes to a cooler, even making a sign for it! She even includes use of her serving utensils and dishes to minimize the items you need to bring with you. Truly a wonderful experience and we are so thankful to have this gem of a location in our neighborhood!

YANA C

Fantastic place for Kids' Birthday Parties and Family Fun! We recently hosted our child's birthday party at SouthportFUNDamentals, and I can recommend! From start to finish, the experience was nothing short of amazing. Firstly, the staff were incredibly friendly and accommodating. Risa(the owner) went above and beyond to ensure that every detail of the party was taken care of. Her professionalism and enthusiasm made the whole planning process a breeze. The place itself is fantastic! It's clean, spacious, and filled with exciting toys and staff that kept the kids entertained for hours. From the colorful play areas to the thrilling arcade games, there was something for children of all ages to enjoy. Plus, the safety measures in place gave us peace of mind as parents, knowing that our little ones were in good hands. One of the highlights of the party was the dedicated kitchen room where we could gather for cake and refreshments. It felt like our own private space, and the staff made sure everything was set up perfectly. The kids had a blast playing and celebrating together in a safe and welcoming environment. I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to the owner Risa for her exceptional help and support throughout the entire process. Her passion for creating memorable experiences for families truly shines through in every aspect of SouthportFUNDamentals.

CASSIDY B

We hosted my three year olds bday party at Southport Fundamentals with almost 60 people, including 20 some kids and has such a fantastic experience. Theres a ton of space and toys to entertain the kids, a separate kitchen area so we could set up the food and cake in that area and then in the other rooms had space to set up a craft and a balloon guy. Everyone was happy to have a contained space for the little ones to run around in. Additionally, Risa was super accomodating. She let me come in early to help set up and store the food so I didn't have to feel crazed to get it all done and was always communicative. Would def recommend for any of your kid party needs!



ALEXA H

We had my daughter's 4th birthday party here and it was a wonderful experience. We were able to load in some of our supplies the day before. Risa was extremely helpful talking through ways to use the space for our partygoers, and helped get our decorations and chairs set up on the day of the event. We had a very smooth experience planning an carrying out the party, and the best part was how much fun the kids had!

NANCY D

It's like going to a friend's house. My daughter loves everything about the place. There are so many toys and lots of opportunities to learn and be creative. Risa is the best host, offers coffee and everything you basically need to make you feel at home. We'll be back soon!

LINDA B

We have attended a few open play sessions and love them! The space is great as well as the selection of toys available. It's a great place for our son to play and have the chance to interact with other kids. We are so happy we found Southport Fundamentals. It is a wonderful addition to the neighborhood. The owner Risa is always so friendly and makes everyone feel welcome. Please keep doing open play. If you live in the Southport area please check them out.

CLAUDIA D

My daughter had the best birthday party at FUNdamentals! They are super flexible with schedules and the items/food/drinks that you can bring. Totally recommend it!



ERIN W

Cannot recommend Southport Fundamentals enough! Risa was such a joy to work with and she even brought her darling daughter to help with the set up on the day of my son's birthday party. My son and all of our guests had a wonderful time. We are considering hosting my daughter's birthday party at Southport Fundamentals in October.

5++++ stars!!

JACKIE G

We enjoyed coming here on CHRISTMAS DAY!!! What a wonderful option to get the kids out of the house. Christmas was reasonable outside this year but it was really great to have an indoor play option. It's a cute space for kids birthday parties too! I wonder if there are any after school care options here.

Came here for a child's 5th bday party as well and had a blast. The parent planned activities but there was also a lot of free play. The owner, Risa, was super sweet and helped my son feel more comfortable by reading to him.

AMBER M

We recently attended a birthday party and the kids (and adults) had a great time! The space is set up to allow children to be active, creative, and engaged. We would highly recommend this space for birthday parties, as the party room is perfect for decorating, storing food/drinks, and mingling. Fun aside, the space is exceptionally clean and the owner was on site to help with the flow of the party. This space would also be ideal for hosting adult gatherings (classes, parties, meetings, etc.). Welcome to the neighborhood!

MERAV B

We celebrated a birthday party for my 5 year old daughter and it was perfect! The place is big, and full of toys, games and costumes, so everyone has so much fun! Rosa is amazing- she is so welcoming and helpfu!

Highly recommended!!



RACHEL B

We had my son's 2 year birthday at Southport Fundamentals! Risa was so easy to work with and the space was perfect. There were kids ranging from 4 months to 6 years old and there were tons of toys and dress up for the kids the play with. It was by far my easiest and stressless birthday party to date!

LORRAINE S

Southport FUNdamentals is our preschooler's favorite place! We've loved the open play sessions these past few weeks as winter transitions to spring and cabin fever has set in. She's discovering a love of dance with Ms Michaela's weekend lessons. And we recently hosted her birthday party here.

Risa has the perfect space for hosting and was incredibly helpful before, during and after the party. We would recommend her venue for a kid's party (or the programs hosted here) in a heartbeat!

MORGAN VN

Celebrated my daughter's 2nd birthday here in February of 2024. Risa, the owner, met us personally and hosted the event. The space is fantastic, clean, and the kids had a BLAST! We started upstairs playing with the toys and went downstairs for pizza and cake later in the party.

By the time guests were leaving, the upstairs room had been returned to the original spotless condition. Wonderful venue, wonderful owner, and all at a competitive price. Very likely we'll be back again next year!

EMILY S

We just had my daughters 2nd birthday party at Southport Fundamentals and it was everything we wanted and more! From the start Risa was super helpful and accommodating – she took the time to help us get everything set up early and shared her expertise when I had questions. The play space itself was awesome. We had a whole gaggle of toddlers who all had so much fun! I would highly recommend having your event here, or even just coming for open play.



COLLEEN H

We've enjoyed coming here a few times. It's an amazing 2 floor play area with plenty of games and toys. They have open play times as well as classes or private events. The owner is super engaging with the kids. Would definitely recommend!

BRITTANY A

Southport FUNdamentals is amazing! We hosted our daughter's 3rd birthday party. Risa made everything super easy! We loved the space it was perfect! Thank you!

TIM B

We hosted a birthday party here and the kids had a blast! The space is much larger than expected and well equipped. Risa was helpful and flexible with us.

TAYLOR B

Risa is a gem. She helped make my son's birthday at Southport Fundamentals a hit. She is an expert planner and allowed us to enjoy the event without having to play host. 10/10 would recommend!



MARY CC

Southport Fundamentals is a great new community space. My daughter spent a summer camp week at this venue and had a blast! The space is fresh, clean, new, and in the heart of Lakeview. You can tell that a lot of thought and love went into creating this space.

ELIZABETH D

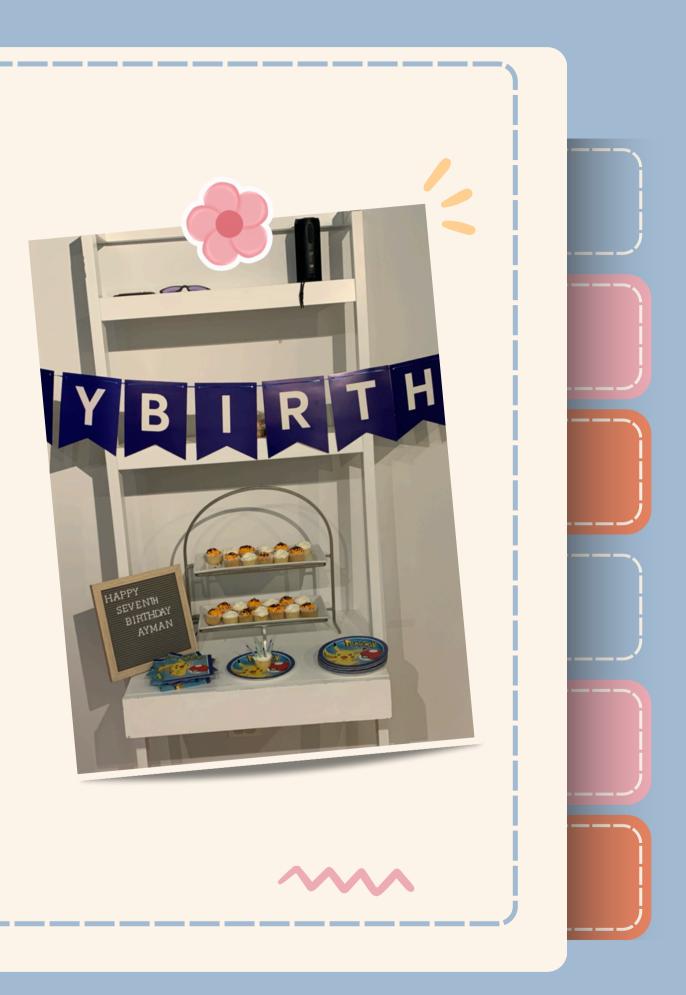
The owner of the space is fantastic! We had a great time at open play. A great assortment of toys and activities. We felt very welcome and would definitely come again!

JESSICA V

We had an AMAZING experience throwing our Birthday party at SF. Risa couldn't be kinder and more helpful and our guests just had a blast! We may make this an annual thing!! :)

SALVA B

So glad to have Southport Fundamentals in the neighborhood! We had my son's 7th birthday there yesterday with a magic show and it was wonderful. Such an inviting, engaging space for kids / adults and a pleasure to work with Risa! She went above and beyond to make sure our party went smoothly and that everyone had fun. Perfect for early November birthdays when we can't be sure if an outdoor party will work! :)



KIMBERLY B

The team and space at Southport FUNdamentals is the best! I've had multiple experiences there, and they are all constantly amazing. Clean space, awesome for parents/caregivers and kiddos!

AICHA V

Amazing experience, excellent place, convenient location. Risa is incredible, a great host and the programs are so much fun, awesome space and vibe, highly recommend!

ELIZABETH D

Open, clean, and welcoming space. Main level is more catered to babies/toddlers and has tons of toys. Great space to use especially in the winter months! There's open play and classes. Free coffee and other drinks. 10/10 recommend to any parents looking for some sanity!

STACEY S

Having my daughter's 1st birthday party at Southport Fundamentals was so great! All of the kids had so many toys and kept them busy the entire time! My toddler didn't want to leave when the party was over.



LAURA H

We had a great party for my daughter at Southport Fundamentals! Lots of space for the kids to play and a party room, too. **Thanks!**

JEFFREY T

A very well-organized and clean place as well as very colorful! Coach Casey is just an amazing teacher!



NIDHI C

We held my daughter's birthday party at Southport Fundamentals, and it was absolutely perfect! There were several fun toys (including costumes!) to entertain my daughter and all her little friends (ranging in age from 1 - 8), and an abundance of space to play! The space was bright and clean, and the party room was also awesome for everyone to enjoy some food and cake. Most importantly, Risa was extremely helpful and responsive both before and during the party - she was a pleasure to work with. We would definitely recommend Southport Fundamentals!

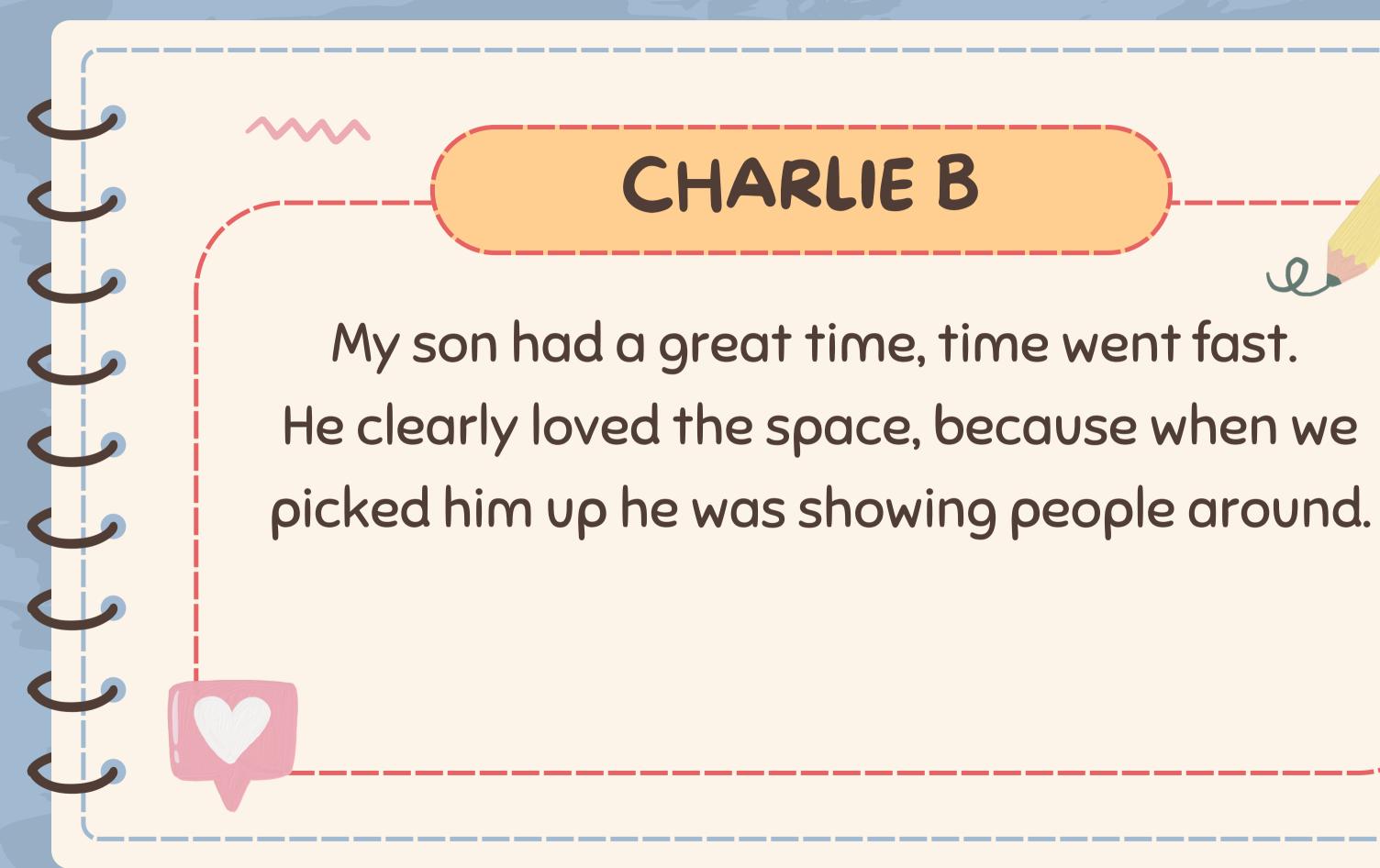


MARIE K

It's a very cute flexible space for events and parties. My daughter loved the Friday night cheerleading event. Can't wait for more nights out!

JOHN P

Fundamentals is a perfect play place or birthday party venue, there is plenty of space to play and enjoy the variety of toys. The owner was kind and gracious my child had an absolutely wonderful time. I highly recommend Fundamentals to any parent wanting to give their child a stimulating and interactive play time or join the many classes offered.



JULIE G

Risa was great to work with. We booked Southport Fundamentals for a small party for a school fundraiser. There was plenty of room for the kids to run around and explore, a great kitchen area where we did cookie decorating, and a giant giraffe that my son tried to take home. Risa had back up items for everything we could need (who couldn't use extra napkins) and even helped some of the kids settle down when they were overwhelmed (super secret reading areas). Overall it was great and I hope to do it again next year.



DANIELLE H

Had my child's first birthday party there – 10/10 highly recommend!

They were so easy to work with, so helpful, the

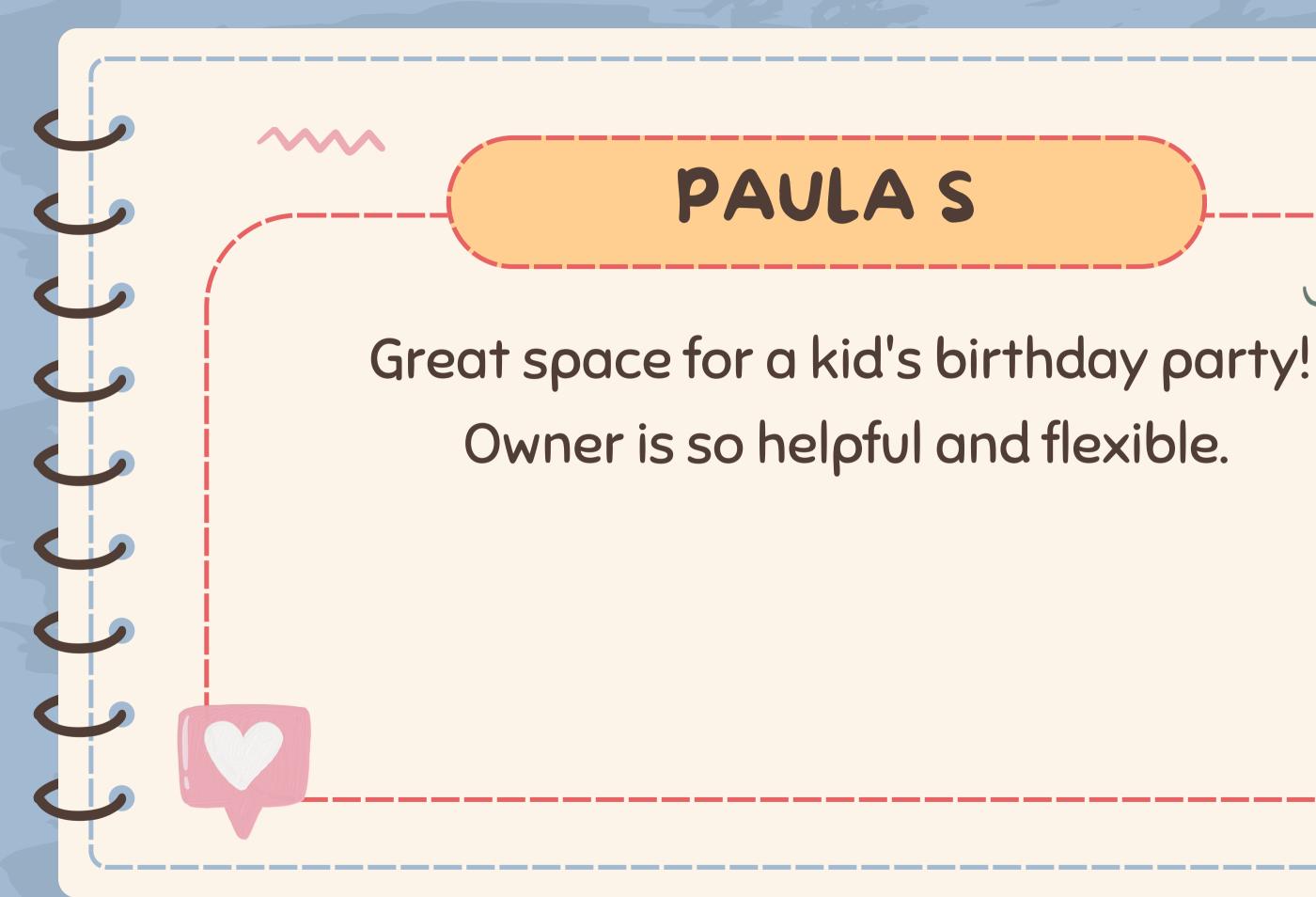
space is fantastic - could not be happier with

how it all worked out.

arty there – nd! so helpful, the happier with t.

RHIANNA W

Held a birthday party here for our 5yo and it was perfect. Risa's guidance and support was very helpful. We had planned activities, but the kids really just wanted to play with the toys and do their own thing. Everyone was happy, chaos was contained, and the parents could chat. Would highly recommend!



EMILY O

What a fantastic place for a 5th Birthday party!! We had the best experiencegreat open space for kids to run around, and a huge kitchen room that was perfect for a pizza party, cake, and refrigerated drinks! Risa made the set up quick and smooth! We used one of her vendors for balloons and it was a hit! Will be back!!



JESSICA O

I have now hosted 2 birthday parties at Southport Fundamentals, and they have been the easiest most fun experiences! The kids have a blast, there are spaces to do almost anything you can dream of, and Risa is the most fun host! We will be back!