

Welcome

Welcome to kindergarten! We are eager to help your family with this exciting transition, and we look forward to working alongside you as a supportive partner who is here to help keep your child happy.

Kindergarten is a really big step. It celebrates your child's readiness to join a new learning community. We hope you find the information included in this brochure helpful as you continue to journey into this new phase of learning.

We believe that you continue to be your child's first and most influential teacher. Your child's success in school is very much dependent on your expectations, interest, and involvement. We have included several activities within this brochure that you can engage in with your child prior to starting kindergarten.

We look forward to working alongside you on this journey. Children are young for a short period of time. Let's all share in the wonder and joy of their learning!

Making the Transition Easier

The teacher will welcome your child warmly the first day, paying special attention to your child during the early weeks to learn about his or her particular needs and interests.

Parents get ready too. Help your child get used to being away from you and home. Discuss any fears about school before the first day. Be positive, loving and reassuring. Teach your child to do things for themselves. Your child should be able to put on and take off coats and boots, be responsible for their belongings, put things away and use the bathroom independently.

Cheerfully say goodbye the first day of school when your "big" boy or girl leaves your side to enter the school. The confident and happy child succeeds. Show your support by encouraging your child to discuss his or her feelings about school with you.

Start Each School Day Right

- Establish routines.
- Be sure your child gets 10 to 12 hours of sleep every night.
- Provide well-balanced meals.
- Dress your child in plain clothes that are simple, sturdy, and appropriate for hot or cold outdoor weather.
- Limit television and video games on smart phones and other electronic devices.

Helpful Tips for Parents

- Read often. Try to set aside 15 minutes each day to read to your child.
- Practice zipping, tying, and buttoning.
- Work on strategies to resolve peer conflicts while at school. Help your child know when to tell the teacher.



Get Ready for Kindergarten this Summer!

- Get a library card.
- Have back and forth conversations with your child. Talk about things you are doing and the places you visited that day to help build his or her vocabulary.
- Count everything! Ask your child, which is more? Less? Look for numbers all around!
- Have your child practice writing their first and last name.
- Play board games like Candy Land to develop counting and turn-taking skills.
- Provide plenty of pencils, paper, crayons, and markers to develop small-muscle skills and creativity. You can even write on paper grocery bags. Provide play-dough to build small muscle strength.
- Cook with your child to develop science skills. Show your child recipes, talk about the sequence of steps and point out how the food changes.
- Provide plenty of active playtime in the sunshine. Vigorous physical activity is important.
- Visit the zoo often and talk about the animals you see.

PreK-2 Elementary Schools

Bermuda Elementary
5835 Bermuda Dr.
St. Louis, MO 63121
524-4821

Central Elementary
201 Wesley Ave.
Ferguson, MO 63135
521-4981

Commons Lane Elementary
2700 Derhake Rd.
Florissant, MO 63031
831-0440

Duchesne Elementary
100 S. New Florissant Rd.
Florissant, MO 63031
831-1911

Holman Elementary
8811 Harold Dr.
Berkeley, MO 63134
428-9695

Parker Road Elementary
2800 Parker Rd.
Florissant, MO 63033
831-2644

Walnut Grove Elementary
1248 N. Florissant Rd.
Ferguson, MO 63135
524-8929



Kindergarten is a BIG Step!



Ferguson-Florissant School District
8855 Dunn Rd.
Hazelwood, MO 63042
314-687-1910

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