



Welcome to Kindergarten

Fall Edition

Fall River, Somerset & Westport Public Schools



Getting Ready For Kindergarten

Welcome to the first edition of our "Welcome to Kindergarten" newsletter. Our purpose is to reach parents whose children will be 5 years old on or before September 1st. and will be entering Kindergarten this Fall. Our intention is to inform parents of upcoming important dates and provide information to make their child's transition to Kindergarten smooth and memorable. This quarterly newsletter will also offer seasonal and skill-building activities for you and your child to enjoy.

Health Requirements As Your Child Starts Kindergarten

In order to be in compliance with requirements for school entry, you must prepare to submit the following records at registration:

- 2 doses of Varivax or history of chicken pox disease
- 4 doses of Polio
- 2 doses of MMR
- 5 doses of DTaP/DTP/DT/Td/Tdap
- 3 doses of Hepatitis B
- recent physical examinations (within 1 year prior to entrance)
- lead screening date
- TB assessment
- original birth certificate
- proof of residency / utility bill

You must make arrangements to have these immunizations and exams done prior to the start of school. Failure to comply with this will necessitate exclusion from school until the requirements are met.

State law mandates that public schools receive copies of the above immunizations from your health care provider.



Fall River Public Schools

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

A child must be 5 years old on or before September 1. Once you have completed the online registration at <https://www.fallriverschools.org/resources/parent-resources> you can make an appointment by calling the PACE office to complete the process.

If your child is already in prekindergarten in the Fall River Public Schools, do not complete an application on-line. Just come to the Parent Information Center after March.

Children who have older siblings in schools or live within the school zone get first priority for open seats. To identify your school zone, call the Parent and Community Engagement Center at: 508-675-8421.

Registration begins in March at:

Durfee High School

Parent and Community Engagement Center

360 Elsbree Street

Fall River, MA 02720

508-675-8421



Somerset Public Schools

Parents will receive a letter in the spring with all the necessary information as to which school your child will be attending and explaining the registration process.

Westport Public Schools

Parents will be notified by mail explaining the registration process. Registration begins in February. Call Macomber School at: 508-676-8671 for more information.



Your home is a learning environment and you are your child's first teacher.

Every day, and every room in your home, provides opportunities for your child to learn Through play activities, daily routines, and being read a bedtime story, children learn skills in math, reading, and language.

Activities that Target Language Skills

- Discuss ingredients being used during cooking.
- Try different foods and describe how they taste.
- Name articles of clothing.
- Talk about daytime clothes & nighttime clothes. Talk about clothes for hot and cold weather .
- Talk about loud and soft sounds (radio & T.V.).
- Name common objects and their use.
- Name the color, size and shape of objects.

When children are engaged in activities with adults, their language and listening skills are strengthened and their vocabulary increases.

Ties to the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks

Participates actively in discussions, listens to ideas of others, and asks and answers relevant questions (e.g discusses foods and changes in foods as they are cooked).

Engage in play experiences that involve naming and sorting common words into various classifications using general and specific language (select objects around the house, identify them and use specific words to describe them - color, shape, size, use).



Activities that Target Math Skills

- Count ingredients or snacks.
- Count using dry beans, snack foods, or macaroni.
- Compare quantity of snacks .
- Count toys and objects around the room.
- Match shoes and socks.
- Identify numbers on the remote control or computer.
- Count the different shapes and sizes of pictures.

Ask questions and listen to your children. Listening is the best way to learn what they know and don't know. It also shows children that their feelings and ideas are valuable.

Ties to the Curriculum

- Count by ones to at least 20.
- Match quantities up to at least 10 with numerals and words.
- Identify the attributes of objects (e.g. describe the size, shape, color of everyday materials such as food, shoes, socks, toys, books, etc.).



Seasonal Activities

Go on a color hunt outdoors and only collect red leaves; change the color you collect on different days .

Place the leaves on the table and help your child count them.

Collect different color leaves and sort them by color.

Create a pattern with the leaves you collected with your child.

Have your child place a green leaf under a piece of paper and rub the paper with a crayon. The leaf shape will appear.

Have your child glue a leaf on a piece of paper and draw legs, arms, and a head to create a leaf person.

Contact Information

For more information on the Welcome to Kindergarten project, please contact

Barbara Allard, Fall River Public Schools .

Coordinated Family & Community Engagement Program

508-675-8421

