



CANYONS
SCHOOL DISTRICT

A DECADE OF EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

Welcome to Kindergarten!



Kindergarten Entrance Requirements

1. Your child must turn five before September 1st of the enrolling year.
2. Parent/Guardian must provide:
 - o An official birth certificate
 - o An immunization record or exemption form
 - o A vision screening certificate (not required, but may be helpful)
 - o Students may be given a vision screening prior to kindergarten based on identified need
 - o Kindergarten students will have a vision screening during the school year



Pre-K Development



- Remember, children develop at different rates. Your child may already be successful with some skills and may need more time to develop others.
- Give your child plenty of opportunities to practice these skills with family and friends in a natural and enjoyable setting.
- The following items are NOT requirements for kindergarten entrance. However, they are suggested skills that parents can reinforce at home to increase the likelihood of success.

Self Help Skills



- Eats independently
- Uses restroom independently
- Removes outer wear (coats, gloves)
- Cleans up after self
- Is curious to try new things



Social/Emotional Skills



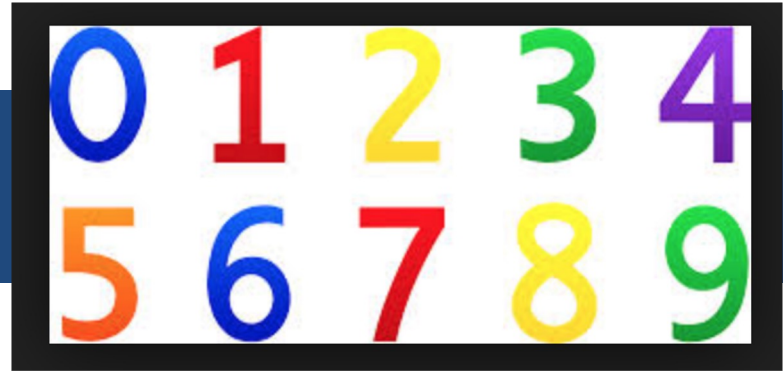
- Listens while others speak
- Shows concern for others
- Shares materials and takes turns
- Persists in completing tasks

Small Motor Skills



- Holds and uses pencil, crayons and scissors correctly
- Builds with blocks
- Makes objects with play dough
- Puts together simple puzzles

Math Skills



- Counts to ten
- Creates groups of up to five objects
- Places like items together (red cars and blue cars)
- Identifies and names the shapes (circle, triangle, square and rectangle)

Language Skills

- Speaks in complete sentences
- Listens and responds to stories and books
- Expresses feelings and ideas
- Responds when spoken to



Literacy Skills



- Identifies 10 or more letters of the alphabet, especially those in own name
- Draws pictures or uses inventive spelling to “write” stories and ideas
- Vocabulary includes color words, body parts, & positional words (in/out).

Literacy Skills

- Identifies signs, symbols, or logos
- Phonological awareness:
 - Can clap or count how many words are in a sentence
 - Clap or count how many syllables are in words (especially family names)



Words in Sentence

The dog ran.

1 2 3

Syllables

Su/san

1 2

Tips for a Happy and Successful Start

- Provide opportunities for your child to pretend/play school with appropriate materials for example: crayons, pencils, scissors, paper.
- Read a wide variety of books to your child every day allowing exposure to rich vocabulary that they might not ordinarily hear at home.
 - If you speak/read a 2nd language, read to your child in their 1st and 2nd language.
 - Visit your local library and check out books regularly.



A Happy and Successful Start

Before School Routines

- Discuss the exciting things that will happen at school such as making friends, learning new things and participating in learning centers.
- Discuss where you will pick up your child or which bus your child will take.
 - Make sure your child
 - gets 10 – 12 hours of sleep nightly.
 - eats a healthy breakfast every morning.

After School Routines

- Pick up your child on time every day.
- DAILY check your child's backpack, discussing what they learned in school.
- Implement a consistent and positive after school routine such as having a snack, or quiet story time.

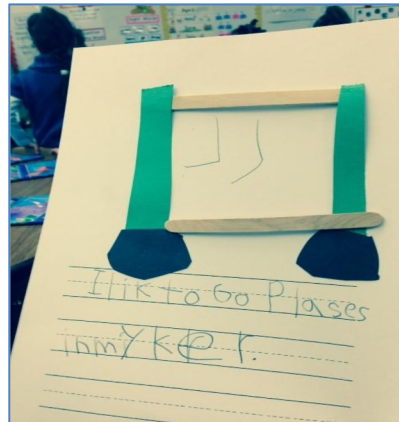
An Overview of Kindergarten In Canyons School District



Adult-Child Interactions

- Interaction Strategies: teachers use evidence-based strategies to support and increase students' oral language
- Encouragement: Teachers encourage students by giving explicit feedback. For example, "I noticed that Max used our Amazing Word, *middle-sized*, describing the blocks".
 - Approach to Conflict: With adult support, students learn strategies to resolve conflicts.

Learning Environment





Learning Environment: Storage & Labeling

Daily Routine

- The Kindergarten Daily Routine is structured into specific instructional blocks to provide focus and intensity in literacy, numeracy, social/emotional and language skills.
- LITERACY BLOCK
- NUMERACY BLOCK
- ORAL LANGUAGE BLOCK



Daily Routine: Block Schedule

LITERACY BLOCK

Kindergarten students receive excellent core literacy instruction from the evidence-based Reading Street curriculum during the Literacy Block.



NUMERACY BLOCK

Kindergarten students receive differentiated core math instruction from the evidence-based EnVision curriculum during the Numeracy Block.



ORAL LANGUAGE BLOCK

The Plan-Do-Review strategies kindergarteners use during the Oral Language Block stem from the evidence-based HighScope Research Foundation.



More About Oral Language

More About Oral Language

Plan → Do → Review
Oral Language Block



The Plan-Do-Review Strategies Within the Oral Language Block Allow Students to:

- Engage with materials and peers through child-driven Plan, Do, Review strategies
- Practice decision-making skills
- Discover their own interests
- Engage fully in what they want to pursue
- Develop creative problem-solving skills
- Practice skills in resolving conflicts
- Develop self-regulation
- Develop trust, empathy and social skills
- Develop communication skills
- Use their creativity and imagination
- Develop skills for critical thinking and leadership
- Analyze and reflect on their experiences
- Reduce stress in their everyday lives
- Extend learning with open-ended materials materials

Every gain in oral speech, in knowledge and in vocabulary and in the conventions of formal discourse, that children make in kindergarten or first grade is ultimately a gain in reading comprehension.

Hirsch, (2006), p. 29.



Beginning Reading Instruction



Assessment

- Acadience: Early Literacy and Numeracy Screeners
 - Benchmarks are administered 3 times a year
 - Progress monitoring for all students
 - Math and Literacy Common Formative Assessments
 - Monthly for teacher collaboration and to adjust instruction
- USBE Kindergarten Entry & Exit Profile (KEEP) 2023-2024
 - KEEP Entry assessment during the first week of school
 - KEEP Exit assessment during the last week of school

References

- Kindergarten...Here We Come!

<https://www.schools.utah.gov/curr/preschool>

- UEN Pre-K Core and UEN K Core

www.uen.org/core

