## Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten



Voluntary Prekindergarten/Early Learning Initiative is a free program available to children who are four years old on or before September 1 of the current school year. This program teaches children the skills they need for a successful transition into kindergarten. These specialized programs extend the three hours of VPK instruction into a full school day aligned with the K-5 instructional schedule.

Volusia County Schools VPK teachers have one primary goal when planning and preparing our students: kindergarten readiness. Kindergarten readiness is a journey and transition into formal academic instruction. Many skills and capabilities are needed for this transition to be successful. Kindergarten readiness does not mean already knowing

kindergarten skills but rather having a foundation of knowledge and exposure that helps students better prepare for their kindergarten experience.

During this program, the students will be taught the Florida Early Learning and Developmental Standards: Physical Development, Approaches to Learning, Social and Emotional Development, Language and Literacy, Mathematical Thinking, Scientific Inquiry, Social Studies, Creative Expression Through the Arts.

## Before the Bell (BTB) and Extended Day Enrichment (EDEP) Programs

The Before the Bell (BTB) and Extended Day Enrichment Program (EDEP) provide structured academic enrichment for school-age children in grades K-8. Every child and youth should have a safe and supportive environment while engaging in activities that support academic achievement and promote social, emotional and physical development before and after the regular school day.

BTB/EDEP Programs are staffed with qualified afterschool personnel. For more information, please reach out to the BTB/EDEP district office at 386-734-7190, ext. 20631 or the site lead/facilitator at your child's school.

- EDEP is for students in grades K 5 and is offered at 40 elementary schools
- Before the Bell is for students in grades 6 8 and is offered at 10 middle schools