

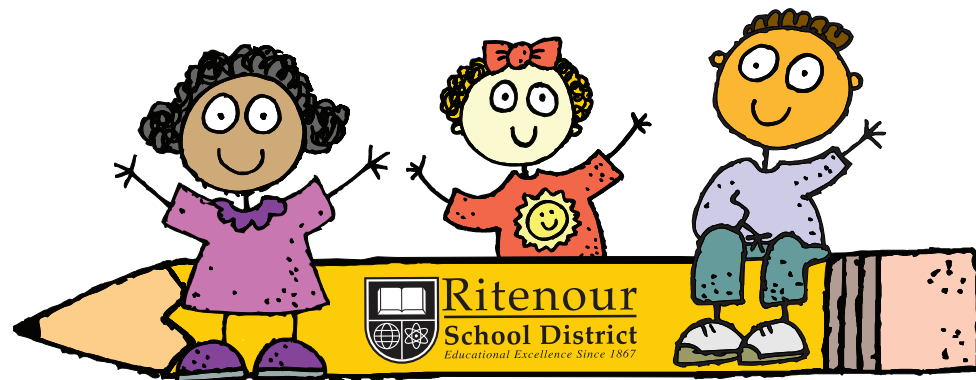
Important Information

My Name: _____

My Teacher's Name: _____

My School: _____

My Room Number: _____ My Bus Number: _____



2420 Woodson Road
St. Louis, MO 63114
(314) 493-6010
Fax: (314) 426-9589

www.ritenourschools.org

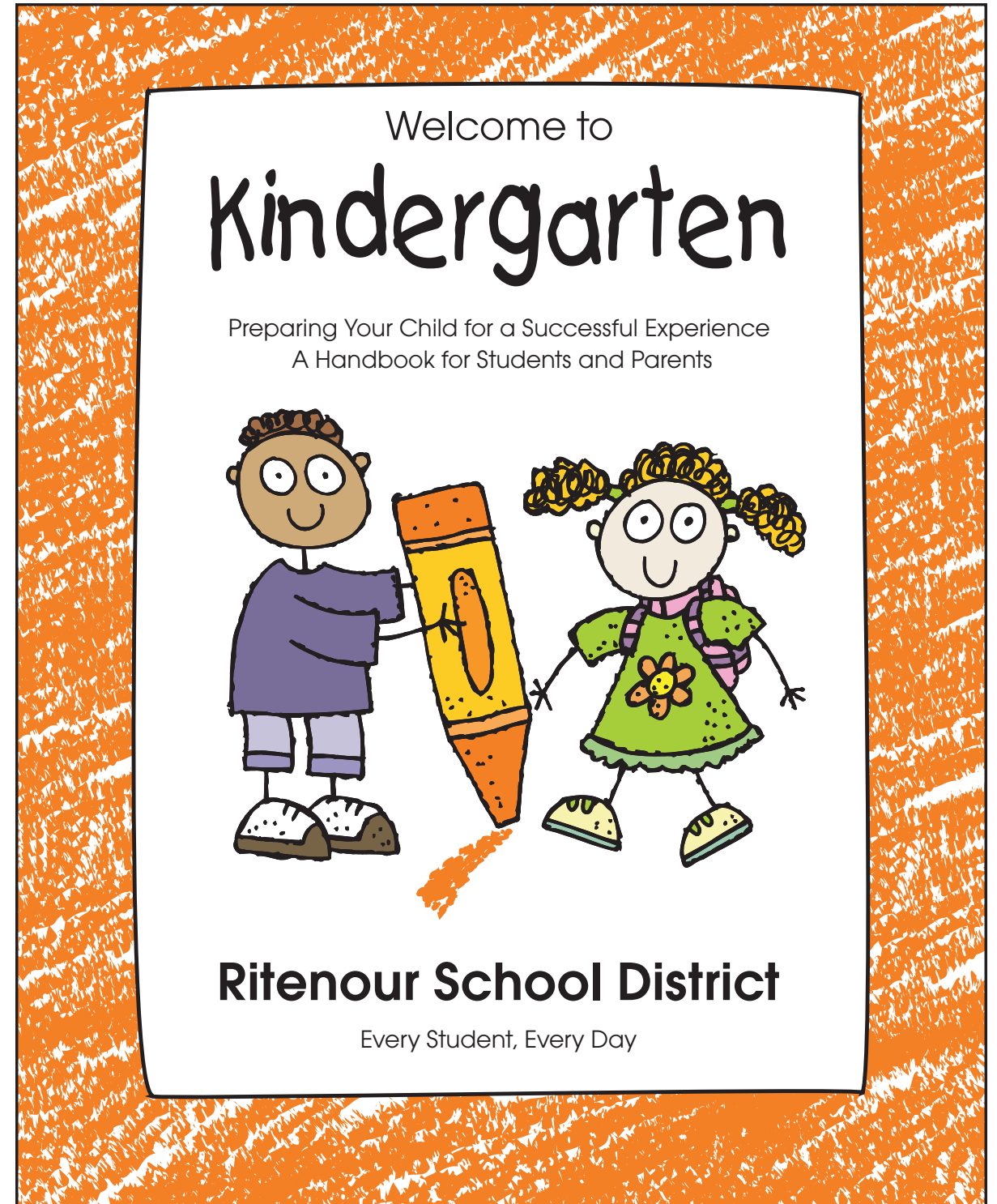


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How Can Parents Get Involved?

As parents and families of a kindergarten student you have been their first teachers since birth. Once your child begins school you become partners with the school to help your child continue to grow socially, emotionally and academically. Some of the ways you can continue to support your child include:

- Make sure your child arrives on time to school each day
- Call the attendance line to report any absence
- Read with or to your child daily
- Praise your child's efforts
- Check your child's backpack daily for notes and student work
- Get involved in your school's parent-teacher organizations
- Volunteer to help in your school (classrooms, library, special events, etc.)
- Communicate regularly with your child's teacher, especially when you have questions
- Encourage your child to show responsibility for their backpack, library books, school supplies and school work
- Send a note to school when there is a change in your child's dismissal procedure
- Inform your child's teacher of health, safety or medical concerns



A Typical Day in Kindergarten

Language Arts/Writing

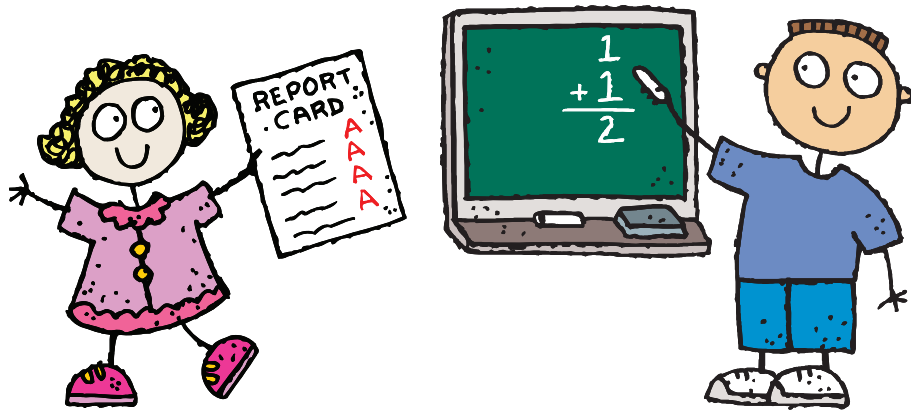
Students learn beginning writing skills through creative and narrative writing and journaling. Students begin to convey thoughts in writing while developing vocabulary.

Math

Students participate in activities that relate to everyday math skills (count to 100 by tens and ones, recognize quantities up to 5, sort shapes and add & subtract within 10)—conceptual understanding, problem solving, understanding by design (targeting your students' understanding), meeting individual needs and program organization.

Recess

Kindergarteners have daily play, which provides time for socialization and physical well-being. Students play outside on the playground most days, so they should be dressed appropriately for all types of weather.



Welcome to Kindergarten!

Our Philosophy

This is a very special year in the life of your child. Our kindergarten philosophy is to provide an environment where children feel safe to explore a variety of learning experiences. Children who feel comfortable and confident enjoy learning and develop positive self-images, which are essential to the learning process.

Our teachers are looking forward to working with you as partners in providing your child with a smooth transition from home to school. We hope the information in this handbook is valuable to you and your child.

You are your child's first and most important teacher and we want you to remain active in the educational process. Your child's education is viewed as a shared responsibility between school and home. Communication is the key to any effective educational program. If you have a concern, do not hesitate to discuss it with your child's teacher. We will inform you of your child's classroom progress during the year. You, as parents, are encouraged to volunteer in any way you can!

Our Kindergarten Vision

We believe our teaching will...

- Provide many opportunities for social development
- Allow children to participate in a variety of learning experiences
- Encourage partnerships with families
- Support the development of the whole child
- Provide your child with the tools and skills necessary to be lifelong learners



Important Information

Buder Elementary

10350 Baltimore Ave.
St. Ann, MO 63074-3837
(314) 493-6300

Absence Reporting Line

(314) 493-6301

Iveland Elementary

1836 Dyer Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63114-2499
(314) 493-6330

Absence Reporting Line

(314) 493-6331

Kratz Elementary

4301 Edmundson Rd.
St. Louis, MO 63134-3909
(314) 493-6360

Absence Reporting Line

(314) 493-6361

School Start and Dismissal Times

8:40 a.m. - 3:35 p.m.

Office Hours

8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday
8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Friday

Marion Elementary

2634 Sims Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63114-3199
(314) 493-6400

Absence Reporting Line

(314) 493-6401

Marvin Elementary

3510 Woodson Rd.
St. Louis, MO 63114-4203
(314) 493-6430

Absence Reporting Line

(314) 493-6431

Wyland Elementary

2200 Brown Rd.
St. Louis, MO 63114-5599
(314) 493-6460

Absence Reporting Line

(314) 493-6461

A Typical Day in Kindergarten

We have a lot of fun learning and exploring each day in kindergarten! Your child's first year in school is filled with many opportunities to learn and grow. Below are some of the things we will work on in our classes.

Calendar Time

Students use the calendar to begin building basic math and everyday living skills by counting, identifying the days of the week, learning the seasons, checking the temperature, measuring and counting.

Language Arts/Reading

Reading readiness skills, phonemic awareness, letter sounds, sight words and story sequence are only a small part of what students begin doing in kindergarten to give them a foundation for reading.

Specials

Students participate in physical education, music, art and visit the library throughout the week.

Social Studies/Science

Kindergartners begin exploring, observing and graphing the life cycles of plants and habitats of animals. They will learn about senses, matter, weather and seasons. Children focus on themes about community, culture, maps and needs and wants. They will understand the unique features of all families.

Technology

Students perform basic computer skills such as navigating the mouse, typing their name, and turning the computer on and off. Students learn the components of the computer workstation.

Continued ►



Pre-Kindergarten Skills

Literacy Readiness

Your child should...

- Have daily experiences where an adult reads aloud to them
- Be able to print his/her first name
- Recognize his/her name
- Speak in complete sentences
- Begin to recognize the names of letters

Numeracy Readiness

Your child should...

- Count to 10
- Count 10 objects
- Know the shapes: Circle, square, triangle, rectangle
- Be able to copy simple shapes
- Begin to recognize numbers
- Recognize colors

School Environment Readiness

Your child should...

- Be able to separate from parent fairly easily
- Be able to follow simple 2 step directions
- Be able to ask questions
- Be able to answer questions
- Be able to express themselves verbally
- Have a 10-15 minute attention span

Personal Readiness

Your child should...

- Be able to zip and button clothing (including coats)
- Distinguish left and right
- Take care of personal hygiene needs
- Share and take turns
- Know first and last name, address, phone number
- Be able to use scissors, crayons, pencil

Student Expectations

As a kindergarten student, I am expected to:

Be responsible by:

- Taking care of my belongings
- Completing my work
- Taking care of classroom materials

Be respectful by:

- Listening to my teachers
- Treating others appropriately
- Using my words instead of my body

Be cooperative by:

- Following directions
- Doing what is asked of me
- Working as a team with my classmates

Be safe by:

- Following playground and classroom rules
- Keeping my hands to self
- Telling an adult when there is a problem I need help solving

Give my best effort by:

- Always doing my best work
- Saying "I think I can"

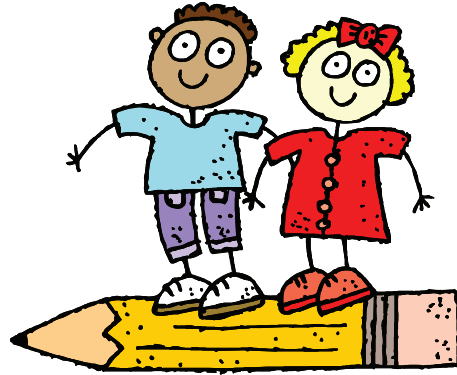


Your Child's Development

Social Development

You can help by providing opportunities to be with other people and by being consistent in what you expect. Help your child learn to:

- Play and share with others
- Take responsibility
- Say "please" and "thank you"
- Be courteous and considerate
- Respect authority
- Use socially acceptable language
- Pick up and put away belongings
- Recognize teachers and principals



Emotional Development

As a parent, you can provide your child with security and the feeling of being cared for and loved.

You can help your child by:

- Explaining what to do when lost
- Encouraging them to discuss the days events and to show their work

Physical Development

Many times a child simply needs to practice certain skills to master them. You can provide materials, time, guidance and encouragement while teaching your child to:

- Take off and put on coats and shoes
- Wash and dry hands well
- Tie shoes, close zippers and fasten buttons
- Use the restroom unassisted
- Use scissors, crayons, paper, glue

Intellectual Development

You can aid your child's learning by doing the following:

- Teach your child their full name, address and phone number
- Teach your child to recognize at least eight colors: red, green, yellow, blue, orange, purple, brown, black
- Read with your child each night

Pre-Kindergarten Skills

An effective kindergarten program encourages cooperation between the home, school and society. It offers your child an opportunity for greater social, emotional, physical and intellectual development.

Social Development

Our kindergarten program is planned to help your child:

- Adjust to school,
- Get along with children and adults,
- Respect the rights of others,
- Take part in a group,
- Accept responsibility, and
- Complete a task.

Emotional Development

Our kindergarten program is planned to help your child:

- Develop a positive self image,
- Feel wanted, accepted and secure,
- Become more confident and independent in new situations, and
- Handle emotions in acceptable ways.

Physical Development

Our kindergarten program is planned to help your child:

- Accept responsibility for personal needs,
- Use good health practices,
- Use and enjoy games and activities,
- Develop large and small muscle coordination, and
- Develop eye and hand coordination.

Intellectual Development

Our kindergarten program is planned to help your child:

- Gain and use information,
- Develop language skills,
- Solve problems,
- Express originality, and
- See and hear likenesses and differences.

