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Calgary Board
of Education

Kindergarten Orientation

Rideau Park School

May 22, 2025
6:30–7:30 PM



The Calgary Board of Education

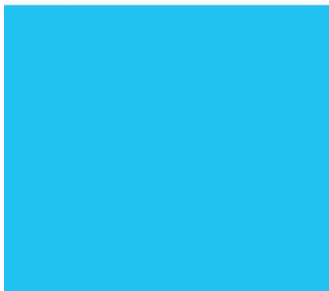


The early years are a time of significant development in a child's life. Personalized attention is extremely beneficial to early learners.



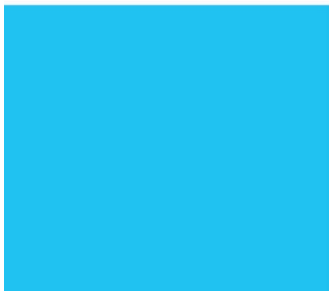
At the Calgary Board of Education, we understand that children bring their own unique talents and gifts to their learning experience. Our dedicated staff know how to help children reach their full potential.





Agenda

- Welcome Video
- Learning through *PLAY*
- Learning Opportunities
- Enhanced supports in Kindergarten
- Getting ready for Kindergarten- tips for parents
- Important dates & times
- Transportation
- First day of Kindergarten
- Extra Resources
- Questions



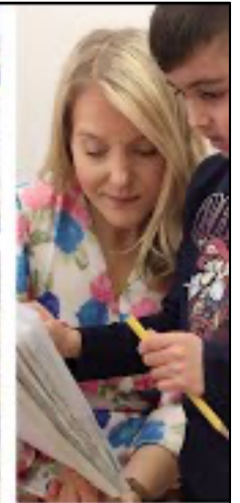
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Kindergarten

Come learn with us!



Calgary Board
of Education





Learning Through **PLAY**

Play is a critical part of the Kindergarten classroom as it supports development across various domains – including **cognitive, social, emotional, and physical.**

Play is a natural and effective way for children to learn and explore the world around them. Successful play experiences boost children's self-esteem and confidence, making them more likely to engage in future learning.

Not only is play a way for children to reduce stress it also lays the foundation for future academic and social success.

Learning Through PLAY



“Young children learn the most important things not by being told but by constructing knowledge for themselves in interaction with the physical world and with other children—and the way they do this is by playing.”

Jones, E., & Reynolds, G. (1992). The play's the thing:
Teachers' roles in children's play, p. 1.

Learning Through PLAY



“Research shows that children who engage in complex forms of socio-dramatic play have greater language skills than non-players, better social skills, more empathy, more imagination, and more of the subtle capacity to know what others mean. They are less aggressive and show more self-control and higher levels of thinking”

~Miller & Almon

Learning Through PLAY



Learning Through PLAY





Learning Opportunities



Your child will have the opportunity to:

- Explore and experiment with their environment
 - Interact with others
 - Develop decision-making skills
 - Build communication skills
 - Develop their knowledge and skills in language arts, science, mathematics, social studies, physical education, and fine arts
- 



Enhanced Supports

The classroom teacher is at the centre of your child's learning team and is supported by a school learning team. Based on classroom needs, each kindergarten program will also be supported by a multidisciplinary team that works with large and small groups in the classroom.

This team may consist of:

Education Assistants or Early Childhood Practitioners

Early Learning Strategists

Speech-Language Pathologists (SLPs)

Psychologists

Occupational Therapists (OTs)

Physiotherapists (PTs)

School Family Liaison (SFL)

Getting Ready for Kindergarten



Build your child's independence by encouraging them to:

- dress themselves (zippers, buttons)
- use the bathroom and wash their hands on their own
- put away toys and help out in other small ways at home
- practice opening and closing snack containers and using a water bottle
- play games, take turns and compromise
- develop a consistent bedtime routine





Getting Ready for Kindergarten



Read to your child every day:



- read stories together in **your first language** to help your child develop vocabulary, listening and speaking skills



- enjoy reading different types of books: picture books, information books, nursery rhymes, poetry

- encourage your child to talk about the pictures and stories as you read together

- visit your community library (when possible)



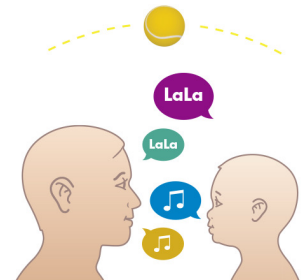
Getting Ready for Kindergarten



Explore communication:



- share special activities together, such as walks to the park
- talk about what you are seeing and doing
- talk, read, sing and play in **your first language** every day
- praise children for their efforts and courage to overcome setbacks
- talk about how it is okay to make mistakes



Getting Ready for Kindergarten



Supplies students will need for school:

- Backpack
- Lunch kit for snack
- Water bottle
- Spare change of clothing in their backpack
- Slip-on or Velcro indoor shoes





First Days of Kindergarten



Staggered Entry: students are introduced to their new classroom, get to know their teacher, and learn basic routines in smaller groups to ensure a successful start in our classroom community.

Students will be split into two groups and will attend during their **assigned hour** (9:45–10:45, 11:00–12:00), each day on:

- **Tuesday, September 2nd** (parents encouraged leave after drop-off)
- **Wednesday, September 3rd,**
- **Thursday, September 4th**

****All students will attend class during regular Kindergarten hours as of Friday, September 5th.**

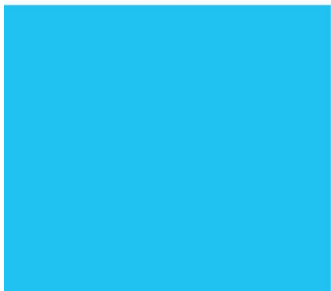




Important Times & Dates



Drop Off: 9:15 AM Pick Up: 12:00 PM



2025 AUGUST						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
			Communication from Teacher			
31						

2025 SEPTEMBER						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Non-Instructional Day	Staggered Entry			Everyone	

Drop-off / Pick-up



Hug & Go: Kindergarten drop-off will be at the **GYM FOYER** doors (at the back of the school, by the Sport Court). Students will meet here at their assigned staggered entry time, and each morning thereafter at **9:15 AM**.

Pick-up: Kindergarten pick-up will be at the **GYM FOYER** doors at the end of their staggered entry time, and each morning thereafter at **12:00 noon**. Students will say goodbye one at a time and will be asked to identify the individual who is picking them up.

Before / After School Care



Summit Kids is an enriching program with a fresh and innovative approach to out-of-school time. They have created an environment that encourages all children to achieve their best while having fun being a kid.

Times: 7:00 AM – 6:00 PM

Summit teachers will drop-off and pick-up Kindergarten students to/from the Kindergarten classroom.



Rideau Campus
Rideau Park School (CBE)
403.477.3095
rideau@summitkidsyyc.ca
829 Rideau Rd SW, Calgary, AB T2S 0S2



A Day in the Life



- Morning Job
Literacy, Numeracy, Cooperative, and/or Fine Motor tasks
 - Movement Break
 - Carpet Time
Check-in, daily message, calendar, literacy, mini-lesson
 - Snack
 - Centers
 - Music/P.E./Library
 - Story
 - Dismissal
- 

Classroom Environment



Reading Corner



Light Table

Classroom Environment



Dramatic Play

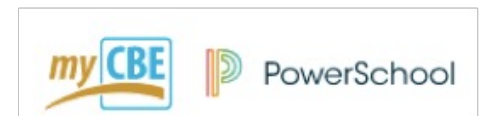
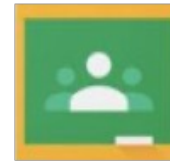
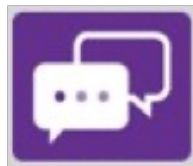
Classroom Environment



Communication Between School & Home



- Subscribe online to **School Messenger**
- To receive text messages send YES to the number 978338
- Weekly RPS updates are sent on Wednesdays via School Messenger
- Classroom learning and information are shared via Google Classroom
- Set up and add student to myCBE / Powerschool Account



*More information about subscribing to School Messenger, creating a myCBE account, and accessing Google Classroom will be sent in June.

Calgary Public Library Resources



Kindergarten Book Bag: helpful resources and fun Library books to prepare your whole family for the transition to Kindergarten.

Kindergarten Family Event:
Celebrate the exciting journey of starting school with games, art, and stories at the Calgary Public Library

Central Library
Saturday, June 28th
(1:30-3:30 PM)

Giuffre Family Library
Saturday, June 28th
(12-2 PM)



Eye See... Eye Learn



Eye See... Eye Learn is a program that provides Kindergarten students with an eye exam from an optometrist, and a free pair of eyeglasses, if needed.

- **80%** of learning is visual.
- Children often don't know they have a vision problem, as they believe what they are seeing is normal.
- One in four school-aged children has a vision problem.



Optometrists.ab.ca/@AAO/ESEL

Questions

