

KINDERGARTEN AT-A-GLANCE

CREATIVE EXPRESSION

Explore self-expression through creative thought, language, movement, music and drama.

Become aware of various forms of expression

Comprehend and respond to various kinds of texts

- connect oral language with print and pictures
- identify rhyming words in oral language
- draw records or tell about ideas and experiences.

Communicate clearly

- form some recognizable letters
- connect letters with sounds in words
- follow one- or two-step instructions.

Manage ideas and information

- ask questions to satisfy curiosity and make sense of information
- share new learnings with others.

Respect and support others

- participate in class and group activities
- find ways to be helpful to others.

Explore thoughts, ideas, feelings and experiences

- talk about favourite books, songs, poems, pictures
- listen to others
- connect related ideas and information.

PHYSICAL SKILLS AND WELL-BEING

Develop basic locomotor, nonlocomotor and fine motor skills.

Activity

- Dance
- Games
- Types of gymnastics
- Individual activities
- Activities in alternative environments.

Assume responsibility to lead an active daily life.

Develop attitudes and behaviours that promote a healthy lifestyle, wellness and safety for self and others.

PERSONAL AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Show positive attitudes and behaviours toward learning.

Contribute to group activities.

Develop positive relationships with others.

Accept and practise responsibility.

Express feelings in socially acceptable ways.

Demonstrate and practise independence.

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ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY AWARENESS

Become aware of materials in the environment and how they are used.

Show curiosity and willingness to learn about the environment and community.

Explore familiar places and things in the environment and community.

EARLY NUMERACY

Shape and Space

- use direct comparison to compare two objects
- sort and build 3-D objects.

Number

- describe, orally, and compare quantities from 1 to 10.

Patterns and Relations

- identify repeating patterns
- sort objects based on a single attribute.

CITIZENSHIP AND IDENTITY

I Am Unique

- value unique characteristics, interests, gifts and talents of self and others
- examine what makes them unique individuals
- explore how we demonstrate respect for ourselves and others

Skills and Processes

- critical and creative thinking
- historical and geographic thinking
- decision making and problem solving
- cooperation, conflict resolution

I Belong

- value how personal stories express what it means to belong
- value and respect significant people in their lives
- examine what brings people together in groups
- examine how people create a climate of cooperation

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

- "In God's Image"—uses the existing special moments and experiences of young children and affirms their religious importance.

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT). Students learn and apply ICT knowledge and skills while learning in content areas such as language arts, mathematics, science and social studies.

Welcome to Kindergarten

Entering Kindergarten is an exciting time for children. Parents and teachers work together to make the transition from home to school as smooth as possible.

Learning in Kindergarten

The curriculum, or *Kindergarten Program Statement*, is developed by Alberta Education in consultation with early childhood educators. It describes what young children need to learn to prepare for entry into Grade 1, and provides a foundation for later grades. Children accomplish these learnings not only in the Kindergarten program, but also in their homes and communities.

Teachers use the curriculum to plan learning activities that meet the Kindergarten children's needs and abilities, and to assess their progress. The Kindergarten area is a busy and ever-changing place, with a variety of learning centres.

Children with an assessed disability/delay may receive educational programming prior to the Kindergarten year.

Information for Parents

Parents can access information about the Kindergarten program in a variety of ways:

- your child's teacher or school
- Curriculum Summary
- Curriculum Handbook
- Curriculum Express
- the Kindergarten page on the Alberta Education Web site.

How Can I Help My Child?

- Be involved in the Kindergarten experience as much as you can.
- Keep in contact with your child's teacher so you are both informed about your child's progress and development.
- Talk with your child about their experiences in Kindergarten.
- Encourage your child through at-home activities, such as bedtime reading, listening to music, making decisions by offering choices, practising motor skills such as throwing and catching, drawing, cutting and doing puzzles.

Religious Education

Religious Education is an essential and integral part of the life and culture of Catholic schools. Schools support the home and family in the faith development of children. For more information, contact the local school board.

Languages

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| ➤ Blackfoot | ➤ Italian |
| ➤ Chinese (Mandarin) | ➤ Japanese |
| ➤ Cree | ➤ Punjabi |
| ➤ French | ➤ Spanish |
| ➤ German | ➤ Ukrainian |

These languages as well as others may be available at your child's school. For more information, contact the local school board.

Where Can I Get More Information?

- The Alberta Education Web site
<http://education.alberta.ca/>
- Arts, Communications and Citizenship
Telephone: 780-427-2984
Fax: 780-422-3745
E-mail: curric.contact@education.gov.ab.ca
- Digital Design and Resource Authorization
Telephone: 780-427-2984
Fax: 780-422-3745
E-mail: curric.contact@education.gov.ab.ca
- Distributed Learning
Telephone: 780-674-5350
Fax: 780-674-6561
E-mail: DLB.General@gov.ab.ca
- First Nations, Métis and Inuit Services
Telephone: 780-415-9300
Fax: 780-415-9306
E-mail: FNMIServices@gov.ab.ca
- French Language Education Services
Telephone: 780-427-2940
Fax: 780-422-1947
E-mail: LSB@edc.gov.ab.ca
- Learner Assessment
Telephone: 780-427-0010
Fax: 780-422-4200
E-mail: LAcontact@edc.gov.ab.ca
- Mathematics and Science
Telephone: 780-427-2984
Fax: 780-422-3745
E-mail: curric.contact@education.gov.ab.ca
- Special Education Branch
Telephone: 780-422-6326
Fax: 780-422-2039
E-mail: Special.Education@gov.ab.ca

