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FishHawk Creek Elementary School

Falcon Families,

Welcome to FishHawk Creek Elementary!

Enclosed you will find our registration packet, please make sure to read through all documents and use the registration checklist as a guide. It is important that all necessary paperwork is completed for your child to enroll. Your child's immunization records and physical must be submitted on Florida medical forms DH680 and DH3040.

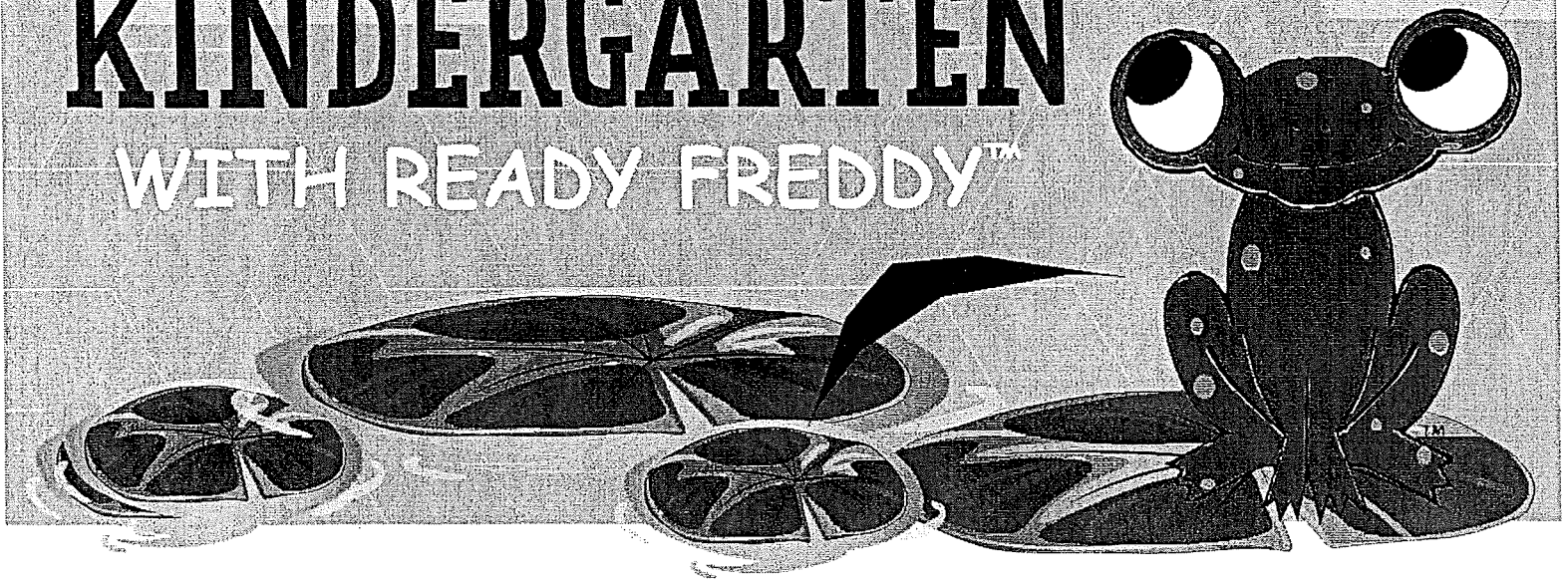
We will be accepting new registrations for the 2025-2026 school year beginning April 1st on Tuesdays-Thursdays between 9am-12pm. During the summer we will only be accepting registrations on Wednesdays between 8am-12pm. Incomplete registrations will not be accepted, so please make sure all paperwork is filled out and required documents included.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Data Processor Jessica Bricker at 813-651-2150 ext. 232 or email Jessica.Bricker@hcps.net.

Sincerely,

Steven Sims
Principal

READY FOR KINDERGARTEN WITH READY FREDDY™



NEW REGISTRATIONS FOR 2025-2026

Your child must turn 5 on or before September 1, 2025 to attend Kindergarten for the 25-26 school year.

New registrations will begin April 1st on Tuesdays - Thursdays between 9am -12 pm.

During the summer registrations will be accepted Wednesdays between 8am – 12pm.

Only complete registration packets will be accepted.



REGISTRATION CHECKLIST

You MUST have all the following for your registration to be complete:

A – New Kindergarten Student: (Must be 5 by Sept. 1st, 2025)

- ☐ Completed Student Release and Emergency Information Card (SER)
- ☐ Student Residency Form, verification of parent/legal guardian address by two forms of the following:
 - ☐ Current Florida Driver's License or State ID
 - ☐ Declaration of Domicile
 - ☐ Utility Bill or Utility Deposit Receipt
 - ☐ Lease Agreement
 - ☐ Transitioning Activity-Duty Military Orders
 - ☐ Mortgage Statement
 - ☐ Rent Receipt
 - ☐ Property Tax Receipt
 - ☐ Homestead Exemption
 - ☐ Warranty Deed
 - ☐ Migrant Address Verification Letter (Migrant eligible students only) No other documentation required
- ☐ Birth Certificate
- ☐ Physical Examination on **Florida Form DH3040** (on or after August 10th, 2024)
- ☐ Immunization Records on **Florida Form DH680**
 - OR** A medical exemption from Florida Department of Health
 - OR** A religious exemption on HRS form 681 available at the Florida Department of Health
- ☐ Social Security Number *not a requirement but highly recommended

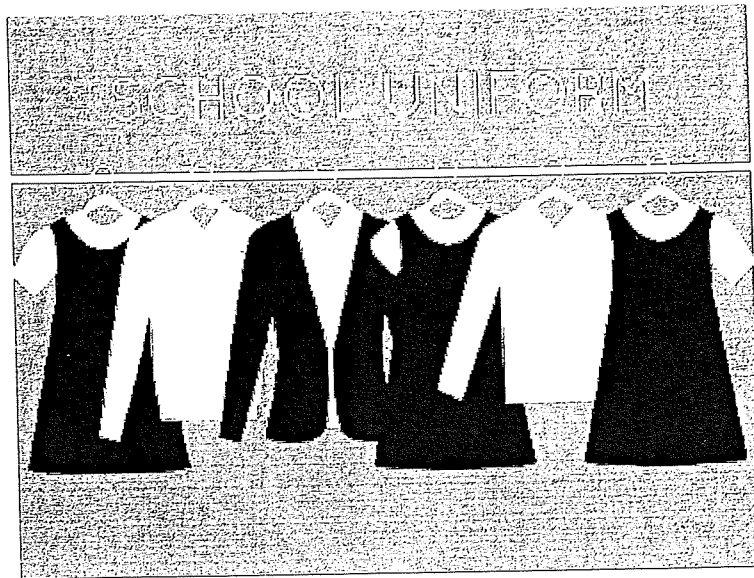
B – Student coming from another Hillsborough County Public School:

- ☐ Completed Student Release and Emergency Information Card (SER)
- ☐ Student Residency Form, verification of parent/legal guardian address by two forms of the following: **See above address requirements**

C – Student coming from a public or private school outside of Hillsborough County:

- ☐ Completed Student Release and Emergency Information Card (SER)
- ☐ Report Card or Transcript from the last school
- ☐ Student Residency form, verification of parent/legal guardian address by two of the following: **See above address requirements**
- ☐ Birth Certificate
- ☐ Physical Examination on **Florida Form DH3040** (on or after August 10th, 2024)
- ☐ Immunization Records on **Florida Form DH680**
 - OR** A medical exemption from Florida Department of Health
 - OR** A religious exemption on HRS form 681 available at the Florida Department of Health
- ☐ Social Security Number *not a requirement but highly recommended

**** If your child has an IEP, please submit most current IEP and initial eligibility paperwork with your registration paperwork. ****



Mandatory Uniform Policy

TOPS: Royal Blue, Light Blue, White, Yellow or Gold shirts (with or without school logo). No logo or writing other than the FHC school logo is allowed on the school uniform.

Uniforms with 'old' logo are still welcome but check out 3FF for your uniform needs. Here's a link to their online Etsy shop or call or go to their store in Fishhawk: (813) 654-4226, 16633 Fishhawk Blvd., Lithia, FL 33547.

Bottoms: SHORTS, PANTS, CAPRIS, SKIRTS, SKORTS, DRESSES or JUMPERS in Khaki or Navy-Blue.

WINTER WEAR: A variety of long sleeve shirts and sweatshirts with a logo are also sold through 3FF Custom Embroider 813-654-4226. **Please write first initial and full last name inside your child's sweaters and jackets.**

FRIDAYS: Jeans may be worn on Fridays along with the Spirit Shirts. For more information on Spirit Shirts you can visit our PTA's website:
fishhawkcreek.memberhub.com



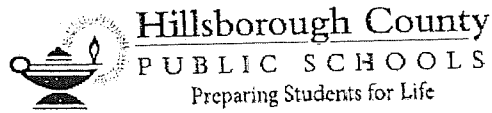
2025-2026 Student Academic Calendar

Board Approved 6.4.2024

Students' First Day of School	Monday, August 11, 2025
Labor Day/Non-Student Day	Monday, September 1, 2025
End of 1st Grading Period	Friday, October 10, 2025
Veterans Day/Non-Student Day	Tuesday, November 11, 2025
Fall Break/Non-Student Days	Monday, November 24 - Friday, November 28, 2025
Students Return to School	Monday, December 1, 2025
End of 2nd Grading Period/1st Semester	Friday, December 19, 2025
Winter Break/Non-Student Days	Monday, December 22, 2025 - Friday, January 2, 2026
Non-Student Day	Monday, January 5, 2026
Students Return to School	Tuesday, January 6, 2026
Martin Luther King, Jr./Non-Student Day	Monday, January 19, 2026
Florida State Fair/Non-Student Day	Friday, February 13, 2026
Presidents' Day/Non-Student Day	Monday, February 16, 2026
Strawberry Festival/Non-Student Day	Monday, March 2, 2026
End of 3rd Grading Period	Friday, March 13, 2026
Spring Break/Non-Student Days	Monday, March 16 - Friday, March 20, 2026
Non-Student Day	Monday, March 23, 2026
Students Return to School	Tuesday, March 24, 2026
Non-Student Day	Friday, April 3, 2026
Memorial Day/Non-Student Day	Monday, May 25, 2026
Last Day of School End of 4th Grading Period/2nd Semester	Friday, May 29, 2026

Hurricane Day(s) if needed: November 11, November 24-26, and January 5

Student Early Release Day schedule has not been finalized.
The last day of school is a 2.5-hour early release.



Parent Letter: Preventing the Spread of Communicable Diseases

Dear Parents:

We are asking you for your continued cooperation in assisting us to control the spread of communicable diseases. Our goal is to make our school a healthy and safe place for both students and employees. We will call you immediately if your child becomes ill during school hours. You are expected to arrange for your child to be picked up as soon as possible. Our school clinic is not equipped or staffed to handle ill children for long periods of time.

Please inform us immediately if telephone numbers or other contact information on your child's emergency card changes. The information on this card is vital for the safety and well being of your child.

Please do not send your child to school if any signs/symptoms listed below are present:

1. Vomiting or diarrhea within past 24 hours
2. Fever $\geq 100.4^{\circ}$ within past 24 hours
3. Chills
4. Sore/red throat and/or congestion
5. Persistent coughing, sneezing, or shortness of breath
6. Loss of taste or smell
7. Red watery eyes
8. Rash
9. Earache, drainage from ear
10. Excessive mucus from nose (runny nose), particularly greenish-yellow mucus

Your child may return to school as soon as all signs/symptoms are gone for 24 hours without the use of medication to treat the above signs/symptoms or when your healthcare provider provides a written statement indicating your child is ready to return to school.

If suspected COVID-19 exposure, please follow isolation or quarantine procedures as directed by your healthcare provider and/or the Department of Health. Please notify your school if you are tested or test positive for COVID-19.

If your child has a communicable disease, please call the school and tell us the nature of the illness and when we can expect his/her return to school.

Thank you for working with us.

Sincerely,

The Office of School Health Services

Hillsborough County Public Schools

Department of Student Services

Office of School Health Services

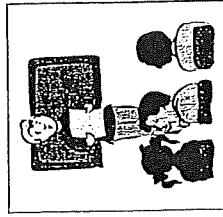
Attention Parents of Kindergarten Students

Health Requirements for Entrance to School

Every student must present a health examination and immunization record when entering a Florida school for the first time (Grades Kindergarten -12th grade). **These requirements must be completed before a child can attend kindergarten.**

Immunization Requirements

The immunization record must indicate that the following minimum requirements have been met:



***5 DPT**

****3-5 POLIO**

2 MMR

**3 HEPATITIS B
2 VARICELLA**

(diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus) Series of 4 plus 1 booster
The final dose of the polio series should be administered on or after the 4 th birthday regardless of the number of the previous doses
(measles, mumps, rubella) 1 st one administered after 12 months of age.
Series of 3
- OR DISEASE VERIFIED BY PHYSICIAN.

***Special Note:** If the 4th DPT was given after the child's 4th birthday, the 5th DPT is not required.

****Special Note:** If the 4th Polio was given before the child's 4th birthday, the 5th Polio will be required.

or
A Medical Exemption signed by a physician
or

A Religious Exemption on DH form 681 available only at the
Hillsborough County Health Department

Health Examination Requirements

A health examination must be completed within the twelve months prior to the first day of attendance in a Florida school (Grades K-12). If you have Private Health Insurance or Medicaid, contact your Physician or Health Care Provider for an appointment. If you do not have private Health Insurance or Medicaid, please contact the Registered Nurse at your school site for further information.

Special Note:

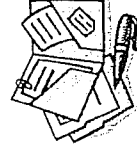
Health examination records from school district early childhood programs (EELP, ECLC, Head Start, Pre-K) will be accepted if the examination was completed within the twelve months prior to the first day of attendance in kindergarten. Day care certificates of health are not acceptable. It is the parents' responsibility to have the early childhood record transferred to the school their child will be attending.

Records and Resources

Immunizations must appear on the Immunization Form (DH680). Physical examination results must appear on the Florida School Physical Examination form (DH 3040). Parents must complete and sign the back of the Physical Examination form Part 1 – Child's Medical History.

IMPORTANT!

Your child cannot attend school until the physical examination and immunization requirements have been met!



Information About School Health Services

Immunizations

If you have Private Health Insurance or Medicaid, contact your Physician or Health Care Provider for an appointment. If you do not have Private Health Insurance or Medicaid contact the Hillsborough County Health Department Immunization Clinic for further information

Hillsborough County Health Department Immunization Clinic



**Sulphur Spring
Health Center**

813 - 307-8077

8605 N. Mitchell, Tampa

personnel important information concerning health problems, procedures for emergency care, and persons to contact if you are unavailable. Your signature on this card gives the school personnel permission to act in emergency situations. Any health problem your child may have should be listed on this card. Please complete this card carefully. It is extremely important for the school to have complete and accurate information.

Remember to alert the school if changes in telephone numbers, addresses, or health status occur during the school year.

Screening Program

Health screening programs are an important part of the Primary Education Program. School health screening activities for kindergartners may include vision and hearing screenings, and measurement of height and weight with Body Mass Index calculation.

Child Health Assurance Act

In 1986, the Florida Legislature passed the Child Health Assurance Act. This act requires insurance companies to pay for children's routine checkups. The law states that insurance companies must cover specified visits (17 visits for vaccinations and checkups from the age of 2 months to 16 years) even if the policyholder's deductible has not been met. It applies also to group policies that originate out of the state for people living and working in Florida. However, the law does not apply to self-insurers--companies that have developed their own plans.

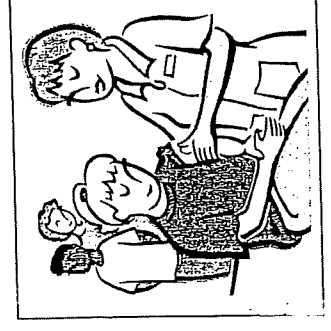
Services to be covered at each visit include "history, physical examination, developmental assessment, anticipatory guidance, and appropriate immunizations and laboratory tests." Provisions of the Child Health Assurance Act will cover the examination and immunizations needed to enter school. Parents should check with their insurance carrier.

Emergency Information/Parental Permission

At the beginning of each school year, you will be asked to complete an emergency card. The purpose of this card is to give school

Additional Information

If you have questions or comments concerning items on this sheet or other school health services, please call the Department of Student Services, School Health Services, 273-7020.



Ready for Kindergarten

CHECKLIST



Your child may have just started pre-k, but soon it will be time to think about kindergarten! This is a monthly checklist to guide you and your child during the transition to kindergarten:

DECEMBER

- ☐ Find your child's neighborhood school at <https://HillsboroughSchools.org/SchoolLocator>
- ☐ Learn about school choice options <https://HillsboroughSchools.org/Choice>
- ☐ Find out when the Ready for Kindergarten event will be held at your child's school at <https://SignupForKindergarten.com> or by calling the school.

JANUARY — FEBRUARY

- ☐ Know the procedures and required documents for enrolling your child in kindergarten at <https://HillsboroughSchools.org/Kindergarten>
- ☐ Attend a Ready for Kindergarten event!

MARCH — MAY

- ☐ Take the required paperwork to the school to complete the enrollment process:
 - Birth certificate
 - Social Security card (if available)
 - Florida Physical HRS form supplied by a doctor (must be within one year of school start date)
 - Florida Immunization Record on HRS hard card supplied by a doctor
 - Two forms of verification of address that prove where you live but are NOT your driver's license or state-issued ID card (some examples are a utility bill, lease, or a contract to purchase a home)

MAY — AUGUST

- ☐ Help your child develop independence by learning how to work belts, zippers, and buttons on clothing.
- ☐ Read books together about starting kindergarten.

TWO WEEKS BEFORE SCHOOL STARTS

- ☐ Talk with your child about what will happen during the school day and about making new friends in kindergarten.
- ☐ Start to establish an evening "going-to-bed" routine and a morning "getting-ready-for-school" routine with your child.
- ☐ If your child will bring a lunch, practice opening and closing food storage containers and bags.

ONE WEEK BEFORE SCHOOL STARTS

- ☐ Plan to attend a back to school event to learn more about your child's school, the kindergarten program, and to meet your child's teacher.
- ☐ Talk with the school nurse and your child's teacher if your child has allergies, dietary restrictions, or special needs.
- ☐ Practice walking the route from the car or bus circle to the classroom with your child before school starts to develop confidence in new routines.
- ☐ Help your child lay out clothes and backpack for the following day.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

- ☐ Allow plenty of time to get ready for school.
- ☐ If you are taking your child to school, leave early to allow time to find parking and navigate the school campus.
- ☐ Make sure your child and the child's teacher knows how the child will be going home. Have fun and celebrate the first day of kindergarten with your child!

THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

- ☐ Begin to establish good attendance habits by making sure your child attends kindergarten each and every day.
- ☐ Make backup plans to be sure your child can get to school on rainy days.
- ☐ Set aside time after school each day to talk with your child about the day.
- ☐ Read everything the school sends home.
- ☐ Learn how you can become involved in your child's education.

Ready for Kindergarten

LISTA DE VERIFICACIÓN

El tiempo tiene una manera asombrosa de pasar rápido y aunque su hijo apenas empezó el pre-k, sin darse cuenta, llegará el tiempo de comenzar a pensar en el kindergarten. A continuación, encuentre un listado mensual para guiarlo a usted y su niño a comenzar la transición al kindergarten.



Hillsborough County
PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Preparing Students for Life



EARLY LEARNING
COALITION OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

DICIEMBRE

- ☐ Encuentre la escuela de su comunidad que esté más cerca en <https://HillsboroughSchools.org/schoollocator>
- ☐ Aprenda sobre sus opciones de escuela <https://HillsboroughSchools.org/Choice>
- ☐ Averigüe cuándo se realizará el Conteo Regresivo de Kindergarten en la escuela de su hijo <https://SignupForKindergarten.com/> o llamando a la escuela.

ENERO — FEBRERO

- ☐ Conozca los procedimientos y documentos necesarios para inscribir a su hijo en el Kindergarten <https://www.sdhc.k12.fl.us/Kindergarten>
- ☐ ¡Asista a la cuenta regresiva de Kindergarten!

MARZO — MAYO

- ☐ Lleve la documentación requerida a la escuela para completar el proceso de inscripción. Documentación que necesita:
 - Certificado de Nacimiento
 - Tarjeta de Seguro Social (si esta disponible)
 - Forma de examen físico proporcionada por un médico (debe estar dentro de un año de la fecha de comienzo de escuela)
 - Hoja de vacuna entregada por un médico
 - Dos formas que verifiquen su dirección pero que no sean su licencia de conducir o identificación emitida por el estado (algunos ejemplos son: factura de servicios, contrato de arrendamiento o de compra de casa).

MAYO — AGOSTO

- ☐ Ayude a su hijo a desarrollar independencia aprendiendo como abrochar cinturones, cremalleras y botones en la ropa.
- ☐ Lean libros juntos acerca de como iniciar el Kindergarten.

DOS SEMANAS ANTES DE COMENZAR

- ☐ Hable con su niño sobre lo que sucederá durante el día en la escuela y sobre como hacer nuevos amigos en kindergarten.
- ☐ Comience a establecer con su hijo una rutina de "ir a la cama" en la noche y una rutina de "prepararse para la escuela" en la mañana.
- ☐ Si el niño lleva almuerzo, practique como abrir y cerrar envases y bolsas para guardar alimentos.

UNA SEMANA ANTES DE COMENZAR

- ☐ Planee asistir al evento de regreso a la escuela para aprender más acerca de la escuela de su hijo, el programa de Kindergarten y conocer a la maestra(o).
- ☐ Hable con la enfermera(o) de la escuela y maestro(a) de su niño en caso que su niño tenga alergias, restricciones en la dieta, o necesidades especiales.
- ☐ Practique caminar la ruta del carro o autobús al aula con su hijo antes del comienzo de clases para desarrollar confianza en nuevas rutinas.
- ☐ Ayude a su hijo a preparar su ropa y mochila para el día siguiente.

PRIMER DÍA ESCOLAR

- ☐ Permita que su hijo tenga suficiente tiempo para prepararse para la escuela.
- ☐ Si está llevando a su hijo a la escuela, salga temprano para tener tiempo de encontrar estacionamiento y conocer el recinto escolar.
- ☐ Asegúrese que el niño y el maestro(a) sepan cómo el niño regresa a casa.
¡Diviértase y celebre el primer día de Kindergarten con su hijo!

DURANTE EL AÑO

- ☐ Empiece a establecer hábitos de buena asistencia asegurándose de que su hijo asista al Kindergarten cada día.
- ☐ Haga un plan de antemano para asegurarse que su hijo pueda llegar a la escuela en días de lluvia.
- ☐ Separe un tiempo después de la escuela cada día para hablar con su niño sobre su día.
- ☐ Lea todo lo que la escuela envíe a su casa.
- ☐ Aprenda cómo puede involucrarse en la educación de su hijo.

What Your Child Needs to Know to be Ready for Kindergarten

Make the most of the time before kindergarten by using the *Florida Early Learning Standards: 4 Years Old to Kindergarten*. This quick reference sheet can be used as a guide as you help prepare your child for kindergarten success and beyond. This list contains suggested skills or abilities, but should not be considered fully comprehensive of all possible skills and abilities a five-year-old child should possess.



Social and Emotional Development

- Recognizes and responds with compassion when peers are upset
- Can communicate feelings and emotions
- Has positive relationships with peers and adults
- Plays well with others
- Can problem solve with peers and adults
- Can describe personal characteristics (e.g., hair color, age, gender)



Physical Development

- Demonstrates physical play, direction and spatial awareness (e.g., running, jumping, balancing, riding a tricycle)
- Eats and drinks without assistance
- Attends to personal hygiene



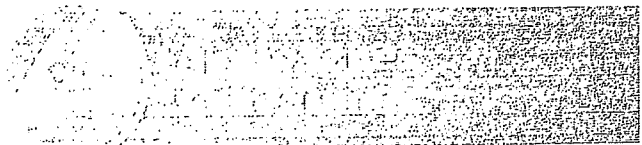
Creative Expression Through the Arts

- Enjoys participating in musical activities (e.g., dance, singing, playing instruments)
- Uses drawing, painting, or other form of art to express thoughts, feelings, and experiences.



Social Studies

- Identifies themselves as an individual and how they are different from others
- Understands the use of rules within the family and classroom
- Understands the use of geographic resources (e.g., globes, maps or GPS)
- Understands the role of community workers



- Demonstrates curiosity, eagerness and persistence to a task
- Shows creativity, inventiveness, reflection and planning for a new task



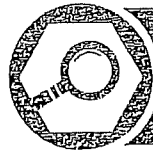
Language and Literacy

- Communicates clearly with peers and adults
- Listens for personal understanding
- Follows two-step directions
- Speaks clearly, in complete sentences
- Continually increasing the understanding and use of new vocabulary words
- Uses age-appropriate grammar (e.g., possessive pronouns, plurals, past tense)
- Continually uses extended sentences
- Ask and answers questions
- Enjoys looking at and reading books, both independently and with others
- Understands how to care for a book
- Can retell a story
- Can identify letters
- Can separate compound words into two separate words
- Can combine two words to create a new compound word
- Can separate or combine syllables and words
- Names most letters (*upper case and lower case*)
- Can write own name



Mathematical Thinking

- Recognized sets of objects without counting (*subitizing*)
- Counts to 31
- Manipulates sets (*counting objects, separating and combining sets*)
- Creates simple patterns using different objects
- Can identify, describe and create basic shapes (*circle, square, rectangle and triangle*)
- Uses terms such as besides, below, next to, behind and under to describe the location of an object



Scientific Inquiry

- Identifies and utilizes all five senses
- Uses various technologies to support exploration and learning
- Understands the difference between and observes living things and non-living things
- Makes predictions about how an environment can change an object (e.g., *water, wind, temperature*)



DIVISION OF
Early Learning
LEARN EARLY. LEARN FOR LIFE.

*This content is provided by the
Florida Department of Education.*

ATTENDANCE MATTERS



Children who are **present on the first day** of kindergarten miss an average of **9 days** of kindergarten. Children who are **absent on the first day** of kindergarten miss an average of **18 days** of kindergarten.

Children who are absent for 18 or more school days in kindergarten have the **lowest** academic performance in 1st grade.

The Key to Success... Show Up! All Day, Every Day and ON TIME!

