

Welcome to Kindergarten At Maple Grove!



6199 Cypress Street
Vancouver, B.C. V6M3S3

School Telephone: 604.713.5356
Safe Arrival: 604.713.5792



Our interest and energy is focused on the growth and development of your child. We hope that you find the information in this booklet useful!

Sharon Hales & Debbie Lam,
Kindergarten Teachers

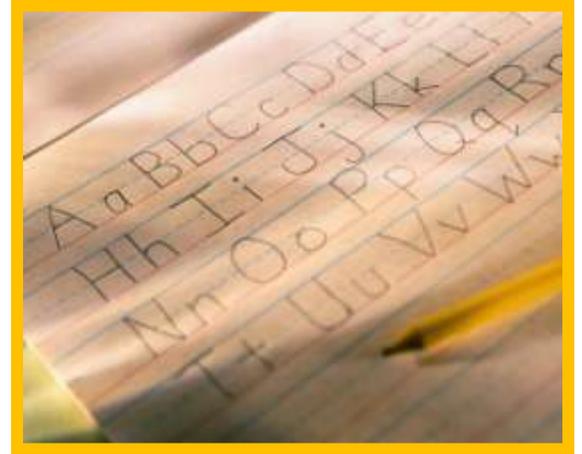
Kindergarten is play and activity based learning.

The students are exposed to new ideas and activities as well as revisiting familiar activities, songs, and games. We provide a positive classroom environment and ensure the success of each child by being supportive of their learning needs.

Learning Outcomes of the Kindergarten Program

These are some of the goals of the Kindergarten Program (**note: this is not the entire list**):

- demonstrate being a good listener for a sustained period of time
- demonstrate being a good speaker (including sustaining conversation on a familiar topic)
- use oral language to explain, inquire, and compare
- engage in reading or reading-like behaviour
- identify most of the letters of the alphabet and their sounds, and a few high-frequency words
- create simple messages using a combination of pictures, symbols, letters, and words to convey meaning
- relate, represent and describe numbers 1 to 10, concretely and pictorially
- demonstrate an understanding of repeating patterns
- identify similarities and differences among families
- develop their emotional health (e.g., making friends, building independence, recognizing things they are good at)



For the entire list, visit:

<http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/irp/welcome.php>

Getting into the Classroom



In an effort to control traffic flow within our neighbourhood and school, Kindergarten students and their families are asked to enter and exit the school through the doors leading in from the North gravel field. Whenever possible, please consider walking to school or parking a block or two from the school to help ease traffic congestion. Please help your child to line up quietly in the hallway outside the classroom just before the 8:55 a.m. bell.

School ends at 3:01 p.m. every day. At the end of the day, you can meet your child at the classroom door. Please allow your child the opportunity to pack his/her backpack and get ready for home independently. Please be on time when picking up your child at the end of the day – they worry when you are late.

Maple Grove has a Safe Arrival program run by parent volunteers. If a student has an unexplained absence, the parent volunteers phone the home, to ensure that the student is safe. If your child will be absent from school, please call *Safe Arrival* (604.713.5792) and leave a message stating child's name, division, and teacher.

School Hours:

8:55	Warning Bell
9:00	School begins
10:30 – 10:45	Recess
11:55 – 12:15	Lunch for the Kindergartners'
12:15 – 1:00	Supervised play outside
3:01	Dismissal



Attendance and Health

It is important that your child establishes a habit of coming to school regularly and on time. This will help demonstrate to your child that the work they are doing at school is valuable and important.



During your child's Kindergarten year, they will have their hearing and vision screened. You will be contacted through the Health Department if more thorough testing is required. The school nurse will visit the school to administer booster shots if necessary. It is a good idea to have a check-up with your family doctor before school begins.

Kindergarten is a fun and active place and many children need more sleep when they enter school. As your child enters school, you might find that they are more tired than usual. Encourage your child to practise good hygiene (using a tissue; coughing or sneezing into their elbow; avoid putting hands in their mouth or nose; washing their hands with soap and warm water after using the washroom; avoid sharing hats, hair accessories or clothing due to head lice).

While regular attendance is important, please keep your child at home if she/he:

- has a cold, sore throat or cough
- has an upset stomach or fever
- has an unusual skin rash
- has other symptoms of illness

*Please inform us of any health concerns about your child, so that we can make the proper provisions at school.



For further health related information, you can contact:

[Pacific Spirit Community Health Centre](#)
2110 West 43rd Avenue
Vancouver, B.C. V6M 2E1
604.261.6366

Lunch

Lunch for the Kindergarteners' will begin at 11:55. The Kindergarteners will be supervised in the lunchroom by their teachers and on the playground afterwards by one of our Supervision Aides. During lunchtime, students will practise table manners, good hygiene, appropriate lunchroom behaviour and will be expected to eat and clean up independently.



The school offers a hot lunch program. An order form and menu will be sent home at the end of each month for the following month. Your child is also welcome to bring their own lunch from home or to go home for lunch (make sure you are back by 12:55!). If your child brings a lunch from home, please ensure that it does not contain nuts, as the lunchroom is a common eating area and some children in the school suffer from allergies.



A Typical Day

- ☺ Arrival
- ☺ Calendar Activities (date, weather, morning message, songs, etc.)
- ☺ Quiet “Reading”
- ☺ Language Arts Activities (*phonological awareness activities, letter/sound activities/ oral language development, concepts about print*)
- ☺ Centres
- ☺ Snack
- ☺ Recess
- ☺ Read Aloud
- ☺ Language Arts Activities
- ☺ Lunch
- ☺ Library
- ☺ Quiet Time
- ☺ Math
- ☺ Language Arts
- ☺ Centres
- ☺ Clean-up
- ☺ Dismissal
- ☺ Throughout the week: Science, Social Studies, Gym, Art, Music



What to Bring to School

There are some things that your child can bring to school each day:



- Backpack
- Waterproof jacket with a hood
- Lunch bag clearly labeled with name
- Healthy, easy to eat snack
- Lunch (unless you plan on participating in the hot lunch program)
- Comfortable clothes and shoes

Your child will also need to keep some things at school:

- Change of clothes (shirt, pants, socks, underwear) in a Ziploc style bag (please label)
- Extra pair of shoes or slippers
- A box of tissues to be shared with the class
- A bottle of liquid soap to be shared with the class

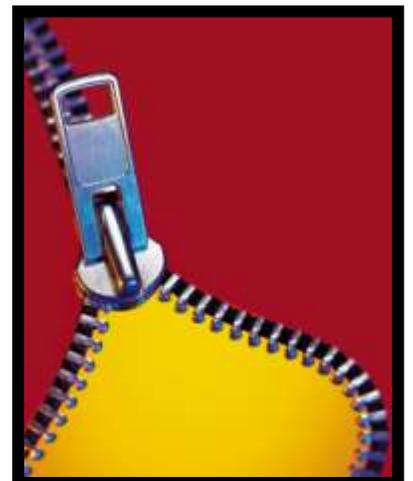


School Readiness

Every child learns and develops at his or her own rate. However, with time and practice, most soon gain the independence needed for school and social success. Always encourage your child to try their best.

Your child will be more prepared for school if he/she can:

- follow simple directions without hesitation
- wash and dry hands and face independently
- go to the washroom without assistance (including hand washing)
- hang up his/her clothes
- do and undo zippers
- use a pencil and crayons to draw and write some letters
- say "please", "thank you" and "excuse me"
- listen quietly to a story without interrupting
- share and take turns with others
- listen while others are speaking
- respect the property and personal space of others
- play respectfully with others



All I Really Need To Know I Learned In Kindergarten

by Robert Fulghum

All I really need to know about how to live and what to do and how to be I learned in kindergarten. These are the things I learned:

Share everything.

Play fair.

Don't hit people.

Put things back where you found them.

Clean up your own mess.

Don't take things that aren't yours.

Say you're sorry when you hurt somebody.

Wash your hands before you eat.

Flush.

Warm cookies and cold milk are good for you.

Live a balanced life - learn some and think some and draw and paint and sing and dance and play and work every day some.

When you go out into the world, watch out for traffic, hold hands, and stick together.

Wonder. Remember the little seed in the Styrofoam cup: The roots go down and the plant goes up and nobody really knows how or why, but we are all like that.

And then remember the Dick-and-Jane books and the first word you learned - the biggest word of all - LOOK.

Everything you need to know is in there somewhere. The Golden Rule and love and basic sanitation.

And it is still true, no matter how old you are - when you go out into the world, it is best to hold hands and stick together.

