

# **Athlone School Early Years Program**

## **Kindergarten Overview**

Teacher: Mrs. C. Lavallee/Mrs. E. Ward

This overview is intended to provide an outline of main ideas and skills taught during the kindergarten program based on the various curriculums. It is not intended to be all inclusive.

### **Language Arts**

The language arts program provides children with several opportunities to listen, speak, read, write, view and represent.

#### **Throughout the year children will be taught the following skills:**

- Retelling storybooks
- Sharing personal stories
- Making connections to others' stories
- Participating in shared reading
- Experiencing books from a variety of genres
- Developing a sense of story
- Predicting outcomes in stories
- Experimenting with sounds and rhythms of language (such as nursery rhymes, songs and finger plays)
- Developing reading comprehension strategies through listening of stories and reading of simple texts (at student's level)
- Reading familiar texts (poems, favorite books, daily message)
- Recognizing environmental print, symbols, and familiar logos
- Learning the concepts of print which include; print is organized from top to bottom and left to right, one to one matching and return sweep
- Recognizing their own name
- Recognizing upper and lowercase letters
- Recognizing that letters represent sounds and match sounds with print
- Forming recognizable letters (upper and lower case)
- Using drawings and labels (words) to express ideas, feelings and information
- Connecting sounds with letters in words and recording them
- Writing simple stories
- Using active listening
- Participating in whole class and small group discussions and collaborative tasks

#### **The above skills will be taught through:**

1. Shared Reading
2. Shared Writing
3. Listening and Retelling of Stories
4. Interactive Writing
5. Explore Centres
6. Writing Workshops
7. Phonological Awareness
8. Show and Tell

## **Mathematics**

The 3 strands of the kindergarten mathematics curriculum include:

1. Patterns and Relations
2. Shape and Space (Measurement and 3-D objects and 2-D shapes)
3. Numbers

The process of problem solving, mental mathematics and estimation, communication, connections, reasoning, technology and visualization are included throughout the above strands.

### **The children will develop the following concepts:**

- Sorting and classifying objects into sets by colour, size, shape, or for their own reasons
- Recognizing, reproducing, creating and extending patterns
- Understanding and using counting sequences to 10 (forward and backward counting)
- Counting past 10
- Developing a sense of 2-D shapes (circle, triangle, rectangle) and 3-D objects (cube, cone sphere, cylinder, prism)
- Identifying and using position and spatial relationships (over, under, above, below, beside, in front, behind, left, right, first, last, inside, outside, between)
- Making equivalent, more and less sets
- Arranging sets of objects in order of size, by length or height
- Making predictions (never, sometimes, always, probably)
- Naming the days of the week and sequencing events
- Exploring measurement (shorter, taller, less, more, heavy, light, empty, full)
- Recognize at a glance and name familiar arrangements of 1 to 5 (objects or dots)
- Show a number as two parts using pictures and name the number of objects in each part

## **Themes**

Our Science, Social Studies, Health and Music programs are all incorporated into our themes.

### **Possible Themes:**

- All About Me
- Seasons
- Fall (Apples, Pumpkins)
- Trees
- Colour
- Paper
- Community Helpers and the Community
- Nutrition
- Winter
- Mittens
- Spring (Bugs, Butterflies)
- Fairy Tales/Nursery Rhymes
- Holidays: Halloween, Christmas, Valentines Day etc.

## **Methods of Evaluation**

1. Daily observation and anecdotal notes
2. Daily work samples
3. Individual assessments
5. Observation survey
6. Checklists



## **Preparing Your Child For Kindergarten**

Here are a few things that can be done over the summer to help improve Kindergarten readiness.

- Let your child button and zip jackets by themselves.
- If your child is wearing shoes with laces teach him/her how to tie them.
- Practice letters and numbers through games and puzzles.
- Have your child practice printing his/her name in lower case letters (first letter in upper case) eg. Allison
- Have your child colour and print using markers, crayons and pencils daily.
- Sing songs and read rhyming books daily.
- Practice sharing and cleaning up.
- Practice cutting paper with scissors.
- Read daily to your child. Have your child hold the book and flip the pages while you read.



## **Why Peanut/Nut Aware**

There are students and staff at our school with life-threatening allergy to peanut and nut products.

The peanut is one of the world's most highly allergenic foods. Peanuts can be found directly in products (e.g. peanut butter), or indirectly, by cross contamination. They are finding their way into more foods during the manufacturing process.

Peanut allergies are on the rise. Statistics show that peanut allergies have doubled in Canada within the last few years. It is very important to realize that, with this life-threatening allergy, even trace amounts of residue can kill. Peanut residue is sticky in nature and can adhere to objects like tabletops, chairs, doorknobs, computer keyboards, sports equipment, taps, etc. for extended periods of time. If a peanut-allergic child makes contact with any residue, there is a risk of that child having an anaphylactic reaction. This is why our school is peanut aware. We, as a community, want to provide the safest environment for all children.

When sending food to school (e.g. snack foods, homemade lunches, holiday/party treats, etc.), please do not send peanut butter products or any products indicating "may contain" statements listed on the food labels. It is also important that, before coming to school in the morning or after lunch, that your child wash his/her hands if he/she has eaten any peanut butter/peanut products.

Avoidance is the key in preventing the occurrence of an anaphylactic reaction. We realize that, at times, this may be an inconvenience, but please understand the importance of this life-threatening allergy.