

# The ABCs of Kindergarten

*Kindergarten is an exciting time of growth, wonder, discovery and learning. It's a chance for your child to learn more about themselves, their potential and self-expression. Your child will also explore decision-making, sharing and co-operation with their peers.*

At Edmonton Public Schools, we understand that no two children are alike and all come with varying levels of knowledge and skills. Every child, regardless of their background or abilities, is welcome in Kindergarten where learning through play is based on their individual strengths and needs.

## When can I register my child?

You can register your child for Kindergarten if they are five years old on or before December 31 of the school year they start Kindergarten.

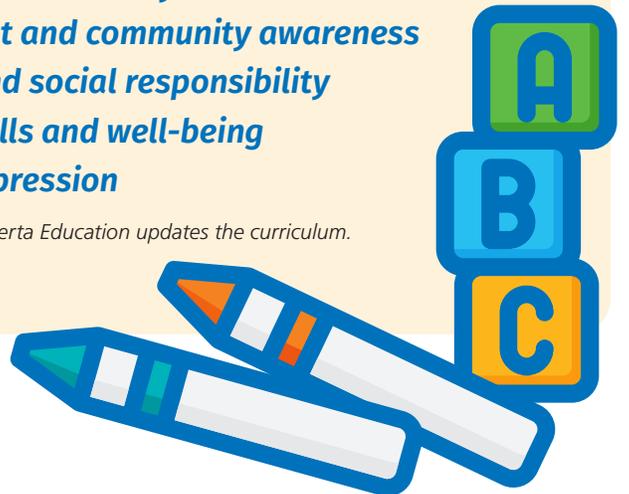
Each year, schools start accepting Kindergarten registrations at the beginning of February. Kindergarten registrations are **not on a first-come, first served basis**. However, if you register after the April deadline your options may be limited. Learn more and register online at [epsb.ca/schools/register/kindergartenregistration](https://epsb.ca/schools/register/kindergartenregistration).

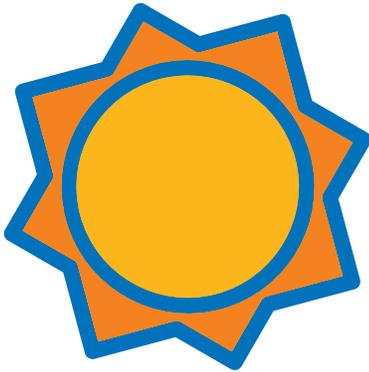
## What will my child learn?

The curriculum is based on Alberta Education's seven learning areas\*:

1. **Early literacy**
2. **Early numeracy**
3. **Citizenship and identity**
4. **Environment and community awareness**
5. **Personal and social responsibility**
6. **Physical skills and well-being**
7. **Creative expression**

\*This may change as Alberta Education updates the curriculum.

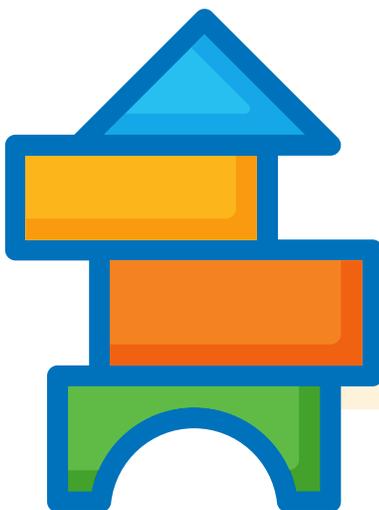




## How can I prepare my child?

While some children can't wait to start school, others may feel anxious about learning new rules and adjusting to new routines. Here are a few tips to help you and your child prepare for a smooth transition to Kindergarten.

- **Talk about feelings.** Encourage your child to share their feelings. Talk about all the new things they will get to do in Kindergarten and how exciting it will be.
- **Read to your child.** Reading and sharing stories with your child in their first language boosts brain function, improves listening skills and sparks imagination and wonder.
- **Play.** Playing offers your child a chance to be creative and have fun while expanding their problem solving, numeracy and literacy skills.
- **Encourage friendships.** Spending time with friends and family gives your child opportunities to build social skills, self-esteem and compassion for others.
- **Discover your community.** Visiting the public library, museums or attending special events with your child can help develop their vocabulary and communication skills.
- **Explore in nature.** Investigating a park or natural area can be calming for the senses, promote curiosity and encourage physical well-being.
- **Establish routines.** Predictable routines can help your child gain independence, responsibility and confidence.



For more information about Kindergarten, contact your preferred school or visit [epsb.ca/programs/earlyyears/kindergarten](https://epsb.ca/programs/earlyyears/kindergarten).

Find us on social media:   