



# Welcome to Kindergarten!



[Video: Welcome to Kindergarten](#)

# What Do I Need to Know?

- Allen ISD's Kindergarten Mission
- Developmental Characteristics of Kindergarteners
- Readiness Skills
- Typical School Day Snapshot
- Academic Year Calendar
- Starting School – Expectations and Helpful Hints
- Parent Prep
- FAQ/Q&A



# Allen ISD's Kindergarten Mission

- First and foremost, Allen ISD teachers want to love and protect your children. Safety is our number one priority! In addition to providing age appropriate curriculum, our teachers are dedicated to nurturing and appreciating each student while fostering classroom connections.
- In August and September, many students may participate in whole group activities to build relationships with their teacher and classmates. Classroom routines and expectations are emphasized. As the year progresses you will see an increase in challenging curriculum.

# Developmental Characteristics of Kindergarteners

- **Emotional** – needs to feel secure, separates easily from caregiver, becomes more self-aware, develops self-control, expresses needs and wants
- **Intellectual** – is often highly imaginative, wants to learn new skills, listens and speaks at appropriate times, learns best by doing
- **Physical** – has high energy but tires easily, develops longer attention span, has better gross than fine motor skills, cares for self and belongings, catches colds or other communicable illnesses easily
- **Social** – enjoys new experiences, seeks friends, shares and works with others

# Readiness Skills

Can your child:

- follow one and two step directions?
- listen to a story without interrupting?
- look at pictures and tell a related story?
- begin and end tasks at the appropriate time?
- clearly communicate his/her own needs and wants?
- clean up his/her workspace and put materials away independently?
- care for his/her own bathroom and clothing needs without help?



# Typical School Day Snapshot

- Morning Announcements
- Calendar/Morning Meeting
- English/Language Arts (Word Work, Reading Strategies and Writing)
- Math
- Social Studies
- Science
- Specials (Art, Music, P.E.)
- Centers/Stations
- Bathroom Breaks/Lunch/Recess
- Pack Up and Reflection
- **\*\*No naptime in kindergarten!\*\***



# Typical School Day Snapshot

- **Schedules:** Each school differs slightly but all will provide their kindergarten class schedule with more specific times before the school year starts so you will know your child's exact day and when you can visit.
- **Lunch:** You can choose to send lunch with your child or have him/her buy lunch in the cafeteria. Menus are posted on the school and district websites. There is a vegetarian option. You will receive information via email before the start of the school year with instructions on how to load their account. Don't forget to send a snack, too!
- **Buses:** If you have a child riding the bus, please know drivers are not allowed to let students in K-2 grades exit without sighting their caregiver.
- **Car Riders/Walkers:** You will be given a safety sign/tag to hang or carry to pick up your child. Teachers call for students on walkie-talkies. Teachers must sight a caregiver before releasing students in K-2.

# Academic Year Calendar

- First Day of School - August 10, 2022
- Fall Break – October 17-19, 2022
- Parent Conference - October 21, 2022
- Thanksgiving Break - November 21-25, 2022
- Winter Break – December 19-January 2, 2023
- Spring Break – March 6-10, 2023
- Last Day of School – May 26, 2023



[Link to 2022-2023 Academic Calendar](#)

# Starting School - Expectations and Helpful Hints

- Elementary School Day: 7:45 AM - 2:55 PM
- On the FIRST day, parents may walk students to classroom.  
*After the first day, parents drop off at the school entrance.*
- Entering School/Visiting Your Child: Why Do We Need to See Your Identification?  
*Before entering, you need to ring the doorbell and show official ID. Office staff will provide you further instruction.*
- Have your child practice: getting dressed, especially working with buttons, zippers and shoe ties; opening, packing, and closing a backpack; opening a lunch bag, containers and water bottle; taking care of all bathroom needs.

# Parent Prep

- Students do best with a good night's rest and healthy breakfast.

*Research shows students 5- to 7-year-olds require 10-12 hours sleep.*

- If possible, practice going to sleep and getting up for school days during the last week of summer vacation.

*This will give you time to adjust your schedule without pressure.*

- Know your dismissal procedures. Whether your child is riding the bus, being picked up by car or walking home with you, make sure you allow extra time in the morning and afternoon to develop a routine.

*The first two weeks of school are the hardest to survive, especially in carpool; don't stress, it gets better!*

- Make sure to complete a volunteer application via the district's website if you're interested in volunteering. Volunteer applications require approximately two weeks to process. You cannot volunteer or accompany your child on field trips without it! Applications for the 2022-2023 school year will be accepted AFTER July 1, 2022.

*To access the application, click on [Register to Volunteer](#) under the Human Resources Department tab on the AISD website.*



# Parent Preparation

Over the next few months and during summer, you might want to practice some academic skills with your child, such as:

- Counting and recognizing numbers 0-20
- Recognizing and naming letters of the alphabet, lowercase and uppercase
- Recognizing child's name in print (capitalizing first letter only)
- Identifying all letters in child's first name
- Writing first name (capitalizing first letter only)
- Cutting with scissors independently
- Holding a pencil with fingers instead of fist
- Throwing and catching a ball  
(use a large ball first and work to a smaller size)



# Parent Preparation Timeline

One week before school starts:

- Practice going to bed and waking up on their school schedule to get used to early wake times.
- Practice their school route. Show them the drop-off and pick up areas at the bus stop. Discuss landmarks so they know which stop is theirs.

The day before school starts:

- Organize their backpack.
- Get their water bottles and snacks packed.

# FAQ/Q&A

- When does registration start?
- How do I register my child for school?
- How do I find my zoned school?
- Can I choose a different school?



Visit [Registration and Enrollment](#) under the Parents tab on the AISD website.

*You may utilize the [School Locator](#) tool to find the school zoned for your residence.*

The enrollment process for 2022-2023 incoming kindergarten students is now open.

1. Complete the online enrollment application.
2. Additional details are available on the Allen ISD website under the Parents tab- Kindergarten Registration.

# FAQ/Q&A

- Will my child get to meet his/her teacher before the first day of school?
- What is the class size per kindergarten classroom?
- Will I be able to tour the classrooms prior to school starting?
- Can I request a specific teacher for my child?
- What if my child doesn't want to go to school? What can I do?



# FAQ/Q&A

- What is the dress code for kindergarteners?
- What size backpack is best for kindergarteners?
- Do kindergarten students have homework?
- Will students go to recess when it is hot, cold, or raining?
- What if my child is late or misses a day of school?
- What are some of the opportunities for parent involvement at school?



# FAQ/Q&A

- Are programs available to support a variety of instructional needs of students?

Yes! These can include our special services for students with disabilities, one-way dual language program or ESL program for emergent bilinguals, and an option of services for students identified as gifted and talented.

Visit the website for additional information:

[Special Services](#)

[Learner Services](#)

[Gifted and Talented Services](#)



# FAQ/Q&A

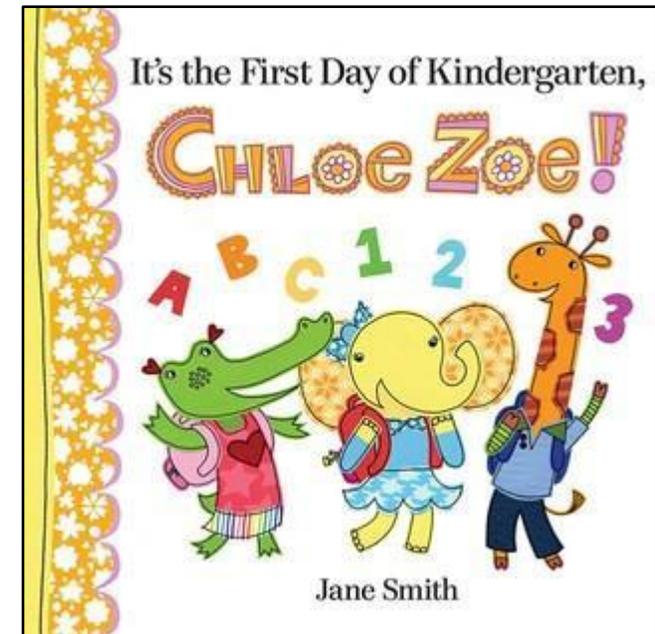
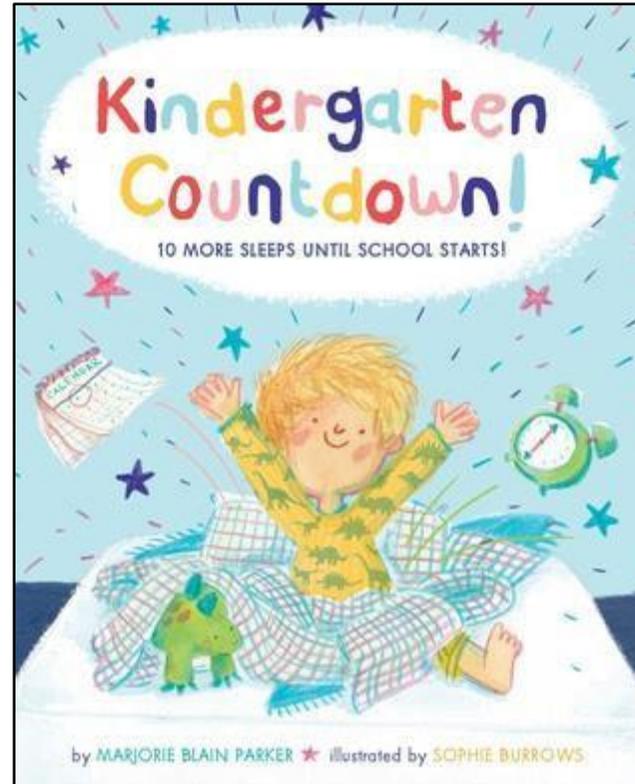
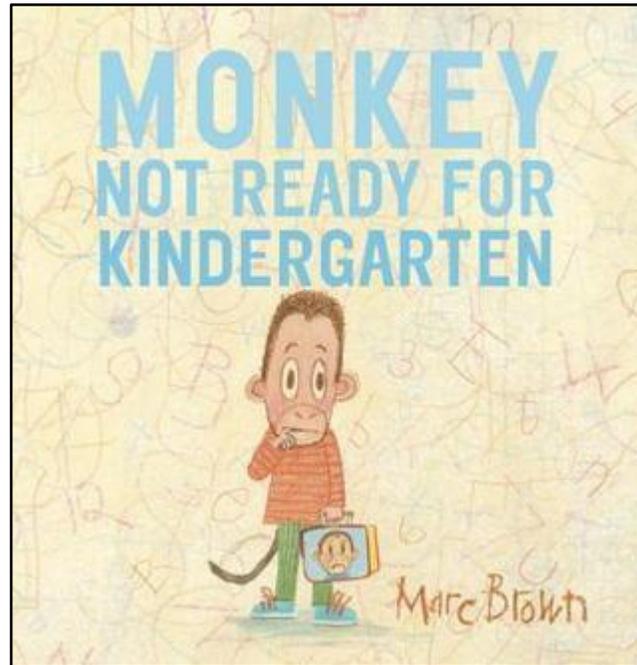
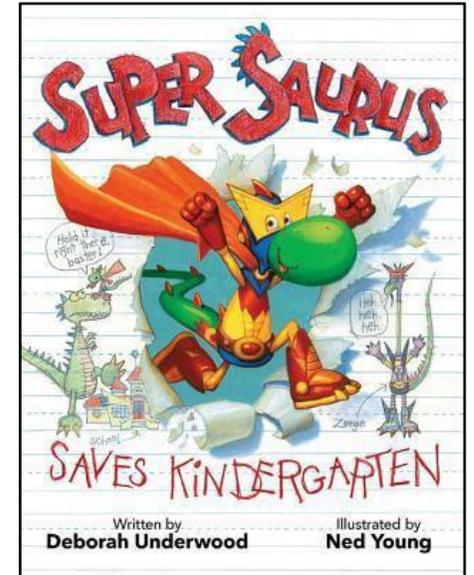
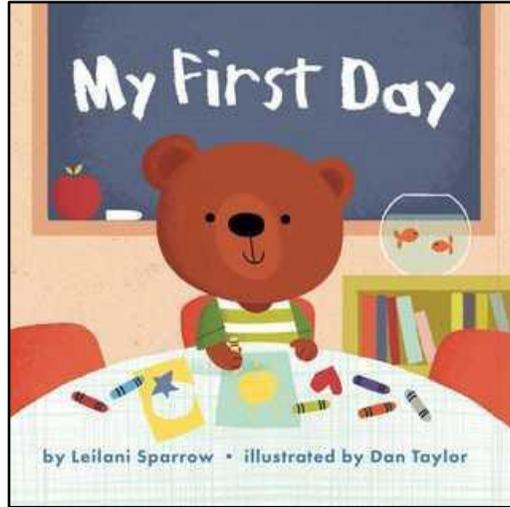


- Can my child ride the bus? How can I find my child's bus route?  
Visit the [AISD Transportation](#) page and use the **Find Your Bus** app link.
- How can I learn more about the lunch menu and student account information?
- How does the campus support students with food allergies?  
Visit the [Cafeteria – School Breakfast and Lunch Program](#) page on the website.
- How can I learn more about the afterschool program called Kids Club?  
Visit the [Kids Club](#) page on the website.

# Helpful Links

- AISD 2022-2023 Academic Calendar: <https://www.allenisd.org/Page/58044>
- AISD Attendance Policy: <https://www.allenisd.org/Page/45064>
- AISD Departments Directory: <https://www.allenisd.org/site/Default.aspx?PageType=1&SiteID=1&ChannelID=7&DirectoryType=6>
- AISD Find A School/School Locator: <https://www.allenisd.org/Domain/67>
- AISD Gifted and Talented Services: <https://www.allenisd.org/Page/291>
- AISD Kids Club After School Program: <https://www.allenisd.org/Domain/28>
- AISD Kindergarten Registration: <https://www.allenisd.org/Page/58088>
- AISD Learner Services: <https://www.allenisd.org/Domain/31>
- AISD School Safety: <https://www.allenisd.org/Domain/34>
- AISD Special Services: <https://www.allenisd.org/Domain/35>
- AISD Student Nutrition: <https://www.allenisd.org/Page/46453>
- AISD Student Services: <https://www.allenisd.org/Domain/3058>
- AISD Transportation/Find Your Bus: <https://www.allenisd.org/Page/398>
- AISD Volunteer Registration: <https://www.allenisd.org/Page/214>
- Health Services: <https://www.allenisd.org/Page/204>

# Children's Book Ideas



# Allen ISD Can't Wait to Meet Your Children!





**This presentation will be available on our Allen Early Childhood PTA website, [www.aecpta.com](http://www.aecpta.com). You can also access our website through the Allen ISD website, under the Parents tab.**