

District Phase-In Period

A phase-in period is utilized to acclimate kindergarteners to the teacher, routines, and the overall school environment. The students are divided into two small groups to allow the teacher an opportunity to spend time with each child over the course of the day. Each group will attend a full-day of school before attending as an entire class. A calendar with phase-in dates and times along with the date of the first full day will be provided by each school.

Tennessee Law and Rutherford County School Board Policy

- Children entering kindergarten must be five years of age on or before August 15. Rutherford County School District does not test for early entrance to kindergarten.
- State Law and Rutherford County Board of Education policy 6.402 requires all students entering kindergarten to have a valid Tennessee Department of Health Certificate of Immunization to enroll or attend school. Students without the required immunization documentation or an exemption will not be able to start school.
- Policy 6.402 requires all students entering school for the first time to have a complete physical examination within one calendar year of entering a Tennessee school.

Rutherford County Board of Education

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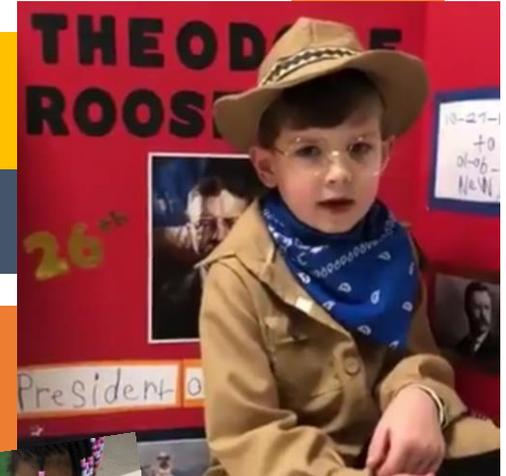
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Welcome to Rutherford County Schools



PREPARING FOR A
SUCCESSFUL JOURNEY
IN KINDERGARTEN

Math

In the area of early learning, research indicates early math skills have the greatest predictive power, followed by reading and then attention skills. Follow-up studies continue to confirm the importance of early math skills. The more math-oriented activities kids do before kindergarten, the better they'll understand math in school. Early math skills predict higher aptitude in high school math and higher rates of college enrollment. A 2014 Vanderbilt University study determined that for "both males and females, mathematical precocity early in life predicts later creative contributions and leadership in critical occupational roles."

Try this!

- ★ Counting with everyday activities. Count the number of steps when walking from one place to another, or count the number of items when you unload a bag of groceries.
- ★ Have your child help you sort the laundry into different groups. For example, put all the pants in one pile, shirts in another pile and socks in a third pile. Talk about how one item can belong to different categories. Talk about which groups include more, less or equal numbers of items.
- ★ Ask your child questions that require comparing numbers. "Who is wearing more bracelets, you or your sister?" (Your child might use matching or counting to find the answer.)
- ★ Practice addition and subtraction within 10 when involved in everyday activities. Say, "You have 3 crackers. If I give you 2 more, how many will you have?"

Kindergarten Curriculum

The Kindergarten curriculum is based on Tennessee State Standards, which encompass language arts, math, social studies, science, visual arts, music, and physical education.

It is our goal to bring these standards to life through engaging lessons that include student discourse, technology, and room transformations.

For more information on standards visit <https://www.tn.gov/education/instruction/academic-standards.html>



**“Empowering
Today’s Students to
Grasp Tomorrow’s
Opportunities”**

Social and Emotional

Try this!

- ★ Create a routine over the summer. Give your child a bedtime (8 p.m. is great) and stick to it.
- ★ Give your child chances to play with others. Notice how he/she gets along with others.
- ★ Explain consequences of good and bad behavior.
- ★ Be reasonable and loving but follow through.

Reading and Language

Research shows language development (speaking and listening) during early childhood is important for success in school. Children don't need to know how to read before kindergarten, but they need to practice many skills to get ready. They love repetition and hearing the same sounds and stories over and over. This builds strong pathways or bridges in their brains to increase learning. You can help with two main activities — talking to your child and reading aloud. Children who hear a variety of words from adults recognize and understand important concepts when they begin to read. Your partner in this process is your library with free books, activities and advice.

Try this!

- ★ Read aloud to your child daily. Ask questions about the story or guess what might happen. Use different voices for characters to make the reading interesting and engaging.
- ★ Choose books and activities that are fun for both of you. Look for simple concepts (letters, numbers, shapes, and colors), easy plots, rhyming language, and nice pictures.
- ★ Show your child many ways in which writing is used — signs, menus, lists, recipes, grocery store, street signs. Ask for help finding letters and words.
- ★ Use games (for example, pretend to be a mail carrier) to teach the child his/her address and phone number. Play listening games with verbal clues and directions (I Spy...).