

Welcome to Kindergarten

Entering Kindergarten is an exciting time for children. Parents and teachers work together to make the transition from home to school as smooth as possible.

Learning in Kindergarten

The curriculum, or *The French Immersion Kindergarten Program Statement*, is developed by Alberta Education in consultation with early childhood educators. It describes what young children need to learn to prepare for entry into Grade 1, and provides a foundation for later grades. Children accomplish these learnings not only in the Kindergarten program, but also in their homes and communities.

Teachers use the curriculum to plan learning activities that meet the Kindergarten children's needs and abilities, and to assess their progress. The Kindergarten area is a busy and ever-changing place, with a variety of learning centres.

Children with an assessed disability/delay may receive educational programming prior to the Kindergarten year.

Languages Other than English

- Blackfoot
- Chinese (Mandarin)
- Cree
- French as a second language
- German
- Italian
- Japanese
- Punjabi
- Spanish
- Ukrainian
- Other

These languages may be available at your child's school. For more information, contact your local school board.

Information for Parents

Parents can access information about the Kindergarten program in a variety of ways:

- your child's teacher or school
- Curriculum Summary
- Curriculum Handbook for Parents
- the French Immersion Kindergarten page on the Alberta Education Web site:
www.education.alberta.ca/parents/educationsys/frenchlanguage/immersion.aspx

Alberta Education has produced a resource, **Yes, You Can Help! Information and Inspiration for French Immersion Parents**, that provides information and answers the questions parents may have about French immersion such as: What is immersion?; How can I help my child if I don't speak French?; Will my child's English suffer?; Should my child remain in French immersion in junior and senior high school? It is available from the Learning Resources Centre at 780-427-2767. Dial 780-310-0000 for a toll-free connection.

How Can I Help My Child?

- Be involved in your child's Kindergarten experiences as much as you can.
- Keep in contact with your child's teacher so you are both informed about your child's progress and development.
- Talk with your child about their experiences in Kindergarten.
- Encourage your child through at-home activities, such as bedtime reading, listening to music, making decisions by offering choices, practising motor skills such as throwing and catching, drawing, cutting and doing puzzles.

Where Can I Get More Information?

- The Alberta Education Web site
<http://www.education.alberta.ca>
- Arts, Communications and Citizenship
Tel.: 780-427-2984 Fax: 780-422-3745
E-mail: curric.contact@education.gov.ab.ca
- Digital Design and Resource Authorization
Tel.: 780-427-2984 Fax: 780-422-3745
E-mail: curric.contact@education.gov.ab.ca
- Distributed Learning
Tel.: 780-674-5350 Fax: 780-674-6561
E-mail: DLB.General@gov.ab.ca
- Early Learning
Tel.: 780-422-9423 Fax: 780-643-1188
E-mail: PUF@gov.ab.ca
- First Nations, Métis and Inuit Services
Tel.: 780-415-9300 Fax: 780-415-9306
E-mail: FNMISServices@gov.ab.ca
- French Language Education Services
Tel.: 780-427-2940 Fax: 780-422-1947
E-mail: def@edc.gov.ab.ca
- Inclusive Learning Supports
Tél. : 780-422-6326 Téléc. : 780-422-2039
E-mail: inclusivelearningsupports@gov.ab.ca
- Learner Assessment
Tel.: 780-427-0010 Fax: 780-422-4200
E-mail: LAcontact@edc.gov.ab.ca
- Mathematics and Science
Tel. : 780-427-2984 Fax: 780-422-3745
E-mail: curric.contact@education.gov.ab.ca

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French Immersion Kindergarten Curriculum Summary



KINDERGARTEN AT A GLANCE

ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY AWARENESS

Explore familiar places and things in the environment and community.

Show curiosity and willingness to learn about the environment and community.

Become aware of materials in the environment and how they are used.

HEALTH AND LIFE SKILLS

Develop French communication skills to enable positive health choices.

Develop attitudes and behaviours that promote a healthy lifestyle, wellness and safety for self and others.

EARLY LEARNING SKILLS

Accept and practise responsibility.

Show positive attitudes and behaviours toward learning.

Demonstrate and practise independence.

FRENCH LANGUAGE ARTS (EARLY LITERACY)

Develop oral skills by

- initiating a conversation, repeating or speaking using a few words in French
- reciting nursery rhymes or singing songs in French
- learning how voice, gestures and expression support meaning.

Develop emerging writing skills by

- beginning to record ideas through drawings and approximations of letters and words
- copying common words like their own name.

Develop oral comprehension by

- learning to express understanding through non verbal and verbal cues
- listening to short, illustrated texts read out loud and supported with gestures
- appreciating and seeking opportunities to listen to rhymes, songs and stories in French
- using environmental cues and class routines to support the development of listening skills.

Develop reading comprehension readiness by

- connecting meaning with pictures and common symbols found in everyday surroundings
- understanding the general meaning of a story through its illustrations
- understanding that print, illustrations and symbols represent meaning.

Shape and Space

- use direct and indirect measurement to compare two objects
- sort and build 3-D objects.

MATHEMATICS (EARLY NUMERACY)

Number

- describe orally, and compare quantities from 1 to 10.

Patterns and Relations

- identify repeating patterns
- sort objects based on a single attribute.

Develop basic locomotor, nonlocomotor and fine motor skills.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Activity

- Dance
- Games
- Types of gymnastics
- Individual activities
- Activities in alternative environments.

Develop vocabulary and sentence structures for spontaneous expressions in French.

I Belong :

- value how personal stories express what it means to belong
- value and respect significant people in their lives
- examine what brings people together in groups
- examine how people create a climate of cooperation.

SOCIAL STUDIES (CITIZENSHIP AND IDENTITY)

I Am Unique

- value unique characteristics, interests, gifts and talents of self and others
- examine what makes them unique individuals
- explore how we demonstrate respect for ourselves and others.

Skills and Processes

- critical and creative thinking
- historical and geographic thinking
- decision making and problem solving
- cooperation, conflict resolution

Explore self-expression through creative thought, language, movement, music and drama.

Become aware of various forms of expression.

CREATIVE EXPRESSION

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT). Students learn and apply ICT knowledge and skills while learning in content areas such as language arts, mathematics and social studies.