



What to Expect in Kindergarten

Kindergarten families can expect:

- Daily literacy, mathematics, science and social studies instruction based on the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) and Michigan Grade Level Content Expectations (GLCEs)
- Engagement in center-based learning as well as whole group, small group and individual activities
- Opportunities for self-directed play and many hands-on experiences
- Routines and schedules established by nurturing, highly-qualified teachers to maximize student learning
- Progress monitoring and teacher observations to aid in meeting your child's instructional needs
- Open communication between our staff and your family

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the average class size?

- Our district makes every effort to keep class size at 27 or fewer students in Kindergarten.

Will there be recess?

- Recess is an important time for children to interact with each other. Children participate in recess each day.

Will there be enough time to eat?

- Students receive 30 minutes for lunch. To help your child adjust, it may be helpful to practice dining at home with a timer. Practice opening baggies, water bottles, juice boxes and other lunch containers. Lunch staff will be on hand to assist students as well.
- More information regarding purchasing lunch and an application for free/reduced lunch can be found on our website by clicking "Lunch Menu"

Will there be nap time?

- Daily nap time is not scheduled; however, students are provided with 15 minutes of quiet time each afternoon.

Will there be snack time?

- Students are encouraged to bring a healthy snack for the afternoon. Specific information regarding classroom needs (such as peanut-free snacks) will be provided at the start of the school year.

Can I volunteer?

- From joining our wonderful PTO to working as a classroom volunteer, we encourage and welcome your involvement and participation. More information on opportunities will be provided at the start of the school year.



♥ Welcome to Kindergarten

CHEROKEE ELEMENTARY

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<http://www.chippewavalleyschools.org/schools/elementary-schools/cherokee/>

*Inspire – Believe- Achieve - Lead
Cherokee...a great place to be!*



Welcome to Cherokee!

Our Cherokee family welcomes you!

The goal of our Kindergarten Program is to positively impact our students' cognitive development as well as their self-confidence and leadership skills.

Opportunities for children to become engaged and enthusiastic thinkers while also learning to share, play cooperatively, and manage one's emotions is the focus of each and every day.

We hope this brochure provides you with information and answers to questions you may have prior to the start of the school year. More information will be provided at our Kindergarten Curriculum Night in August and can also be found on the Cherokee website:

<http://www.chippewavalleyschools.org/schools/elementary-schools/cherokee/>

Families can help prepare their child for Kindergarten

Parents and teachers recognize that each child is unique and grows at his or her own particular rate. Families can help by encouraging children with:

Developing Desirable Play Habits

Give your child opportunities to:

- play with other children & older siblings
- make new friends
- feel the importance of taking turns
- help make decisions in family activities

Going to the Bathroom

Teach your child to:

- use the bathroom without help (wear clothing that can be managed alone)
- practice personal hygiene
- flush the toilet and wash hands

Putting on Clothes

Practice with your child:

- putting on outdoor clothing (including boots and coats)
- tying shoes
- working with buttons and zippers
- knowing and taking responsibility for his/her own items

Following a Routine

Before school begins, establish a routine for:

- Sleeping: 10-12 hours each night
- Eating: well-balanced, unhurried meals
- Studying: establish a time to read/learn together each day and discuss the story or what was learned
- Talking: spend time talking together

A Day in the Life of a Kindergartener

The Cherokee Staff prides itself on welcoming all children each morning to a safe, nurturing, and engaging learning environment.

The following is an overview of the "typical" day in the life of your kindergarten child.

Arrival & Morning Meeting

Handwriting Handwriting without Tears*

SMART Board Interactive Activities

Literacy Block Journeys*

Lunch/Recess/Quiet Time

Computer Lab/Library

Math Block ~ Bridges*

Science/Social Studies Instruction

Specials (Science/Gym/Art/Music)

Center Time/ Free Play/ Outdoor Time

Closing Activities & Dismissal

* District-adopted programs

Our staff works to ensure all children enjoy a challenging and successful experience that fosters a love for learning. Please visit our website for more detailed information regarding curriculum and links to resources families can utilize at home.

We look forward to sharing more information with you at Kindergarten Curriculum Night in August.