



Kindergarten Parent Orientation

Elbow Park School
February 6, 2024



Calgary Board
of Education

Agenda



- Parent Council & Society
- Registration (www.cbe.ab.ca/elbowpark)
- Learning through *PLAY*
- Enhanced supports in kindergarten
- Getting ready for kindergarten- tips for parents
- Important dates & times
- First day of Kindergarten
- Before & After School Care: Child's Play
- Additional Resources
- Questions & Answers

Introductions



- Parent Council Chair: **Meghan Zubot**
<https://elbowpark.cbe.ab.ca/school-council>
- Parent Society President: **Risa Desa**
<https://elbowpark.cbe.ab.ca/parent-society>

Parent Council

Through the Education Act, Alberta Education defines school councils as a collective association of parents, the principal, teachers, and community representative(s) whose purpose is to advise the principal and the Board of Trustees respecting matters related to the school.

Parent Society

Parent societies are a formal group of parents, incorporated under the *Societies Act* for the purpose of raising funds for the school. A society is a separate legal entity from the school council.

Volunteer Opportunities

- Fun Lunch
- Field Trips
- In the Classroom
- Room Parent
- Residencies
- Council Events

Council Events



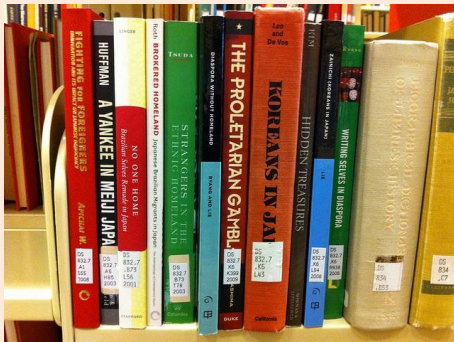
Halloween Dance



Christmas Hampers



Mountain of Warmth



Birthday Books



Fall Fair/Spring Fling



Appreciation Committee



Winter Concert

Kindergarten: Winter Concert

Grade ½: Spring Concert

Grade ¾: Spring Fling/Fall Fair

Grade 5/6: Halloween Dance



Elbow Park Parent Society (EPPS)

Fundraisers

- Martini's & Masterpieces
- Casino
- Birthday Books
- Yearly Family Contribution

Yearly Budget

- \$260/child
- \$65,000

Class List – Kindy Parent Email List





Kindergarten Registration

- Please visit the [CBE kindergarten website](#) for additional information
- You must provide proof of your child's age, legal name, citizenship and address
- To register your child for school, you must create a [SchoolEngage](#) account
- Once your child is registered, you will need to create a MyCBE Account. Having a MyCBE Account means you can:
 - Access your child's grades and attendance and noon supervision
 - Pay fees online and request waivers
 - Book parent-teacher conferences

The Calgary Board of Education



The early years are a time of significant development in a child's life. Personalized attention is extremely beneficial to early learners.

At the Calgary Board of Education, we understand that children bring their own unique talents and gifts to their learning experience. Our dedicated staff know how to help children reach their full potential.

Learning Through **PLAY**

More than just skill building or practicing for the world we will grow into, play is the primary way which children manipulate new information, fit it into existing schema or create new ones and then adjust their understanding accordingly.



formulating **hypothesis**

engaging in experimentation and exploration

discovering patterns

creating **theories**

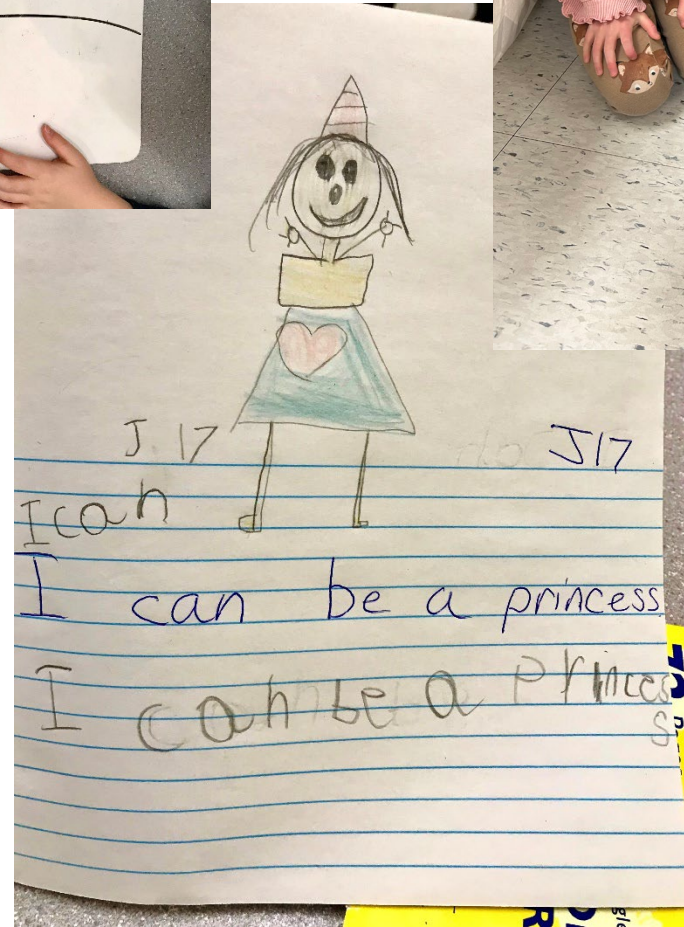
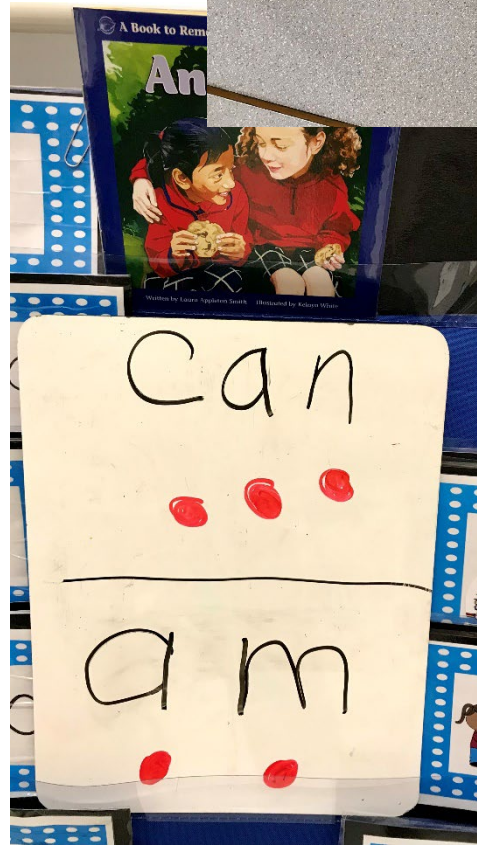
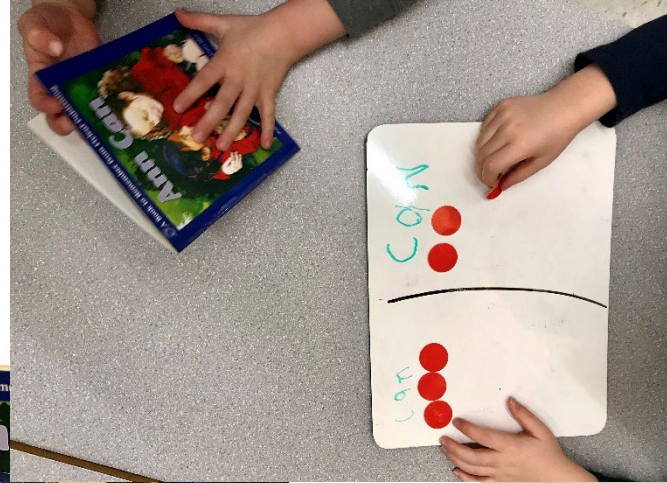
Learning Through PLAY

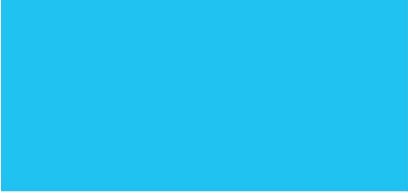


“Research shows that children who engage in complex forms of socio-dramatic play have greater language skills than non-players, better social skills, more empathy, more imagination, and more of the subtle capacity to know what others mean. They are less aggressive and show more self-control and higher levels of thinking”

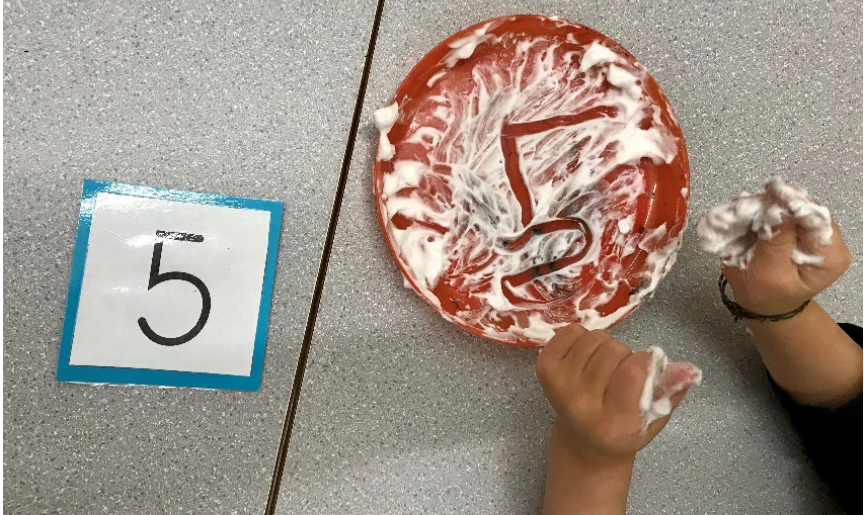
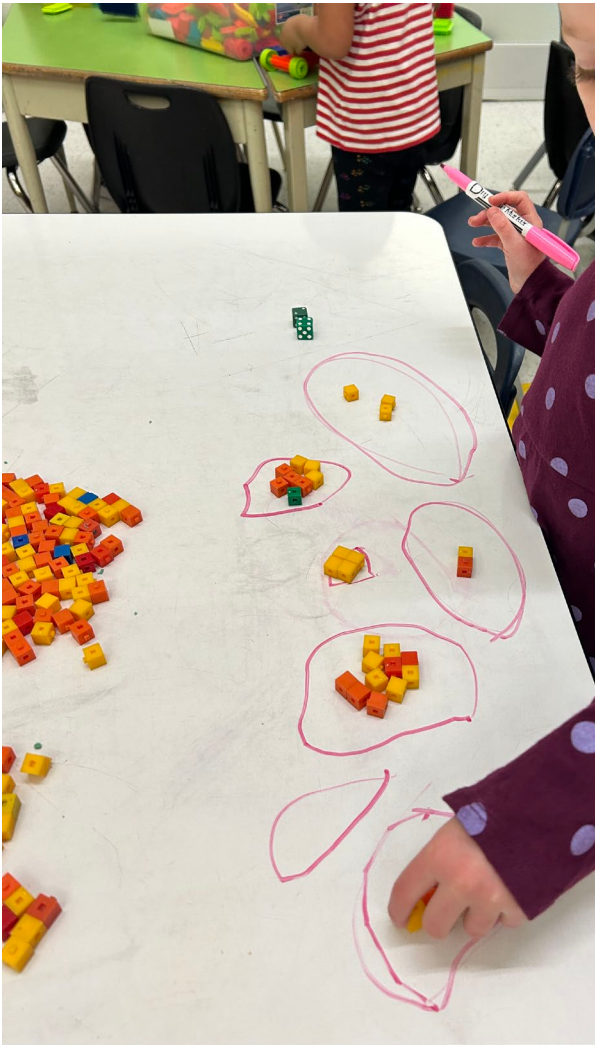
~Miller & Almon

Early Literacy

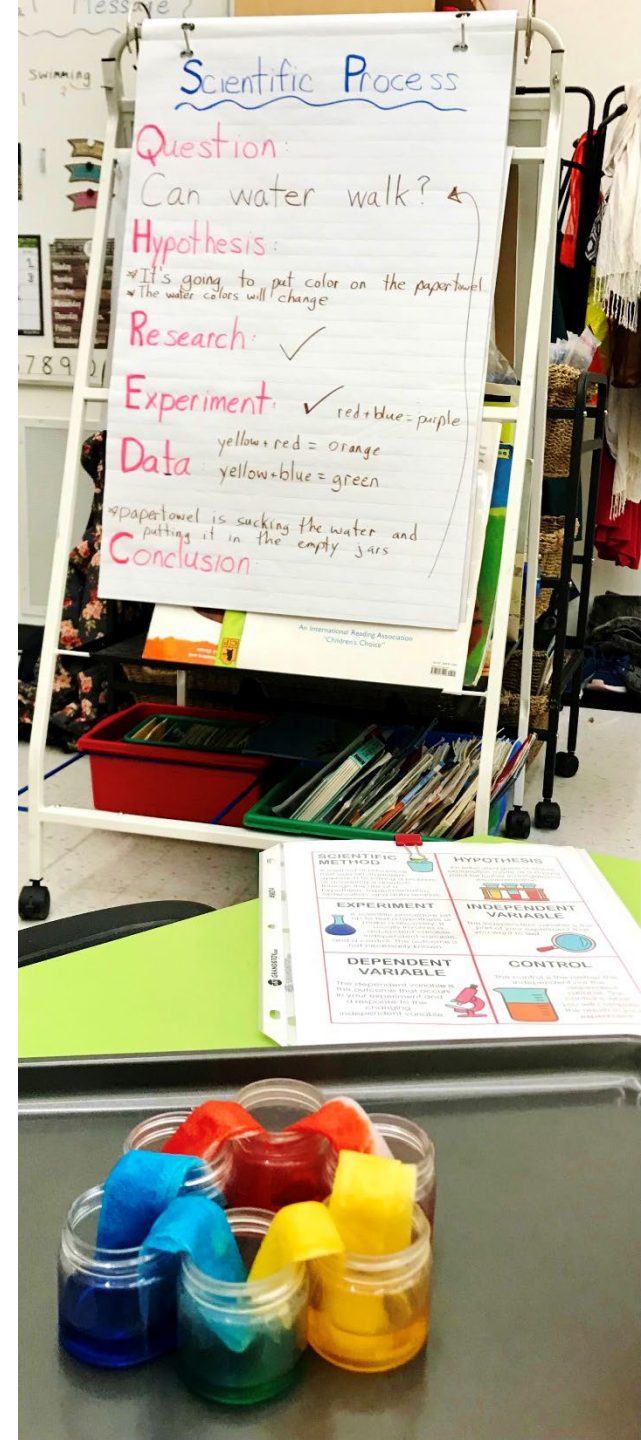




Numeracy



Science



Field Trips



Enhanced Supports



The classroom teacher is at the centre of your child's learning team and is supported by a school learning team. Based on classroom needs, each Kindergarten program will also be supported by a multidisciplinary team that works with large and small groups in the classroom.

This team may consist of:

Education Assistants or Early Childhood Practitioners

Early Learning Strategists

Speech-Language Pathologists (SLPs)

Psychologists

Occupational Therapists (OTs)

Physiotherapists (PTs)

School Family Liaison (SFL)

Getting Ready for Kindergarten



Build your child's independence by encouraging them to:



- School Drop-Off:
 - Practice leaving child at friends or family
 - Quick hand-offs alleviate anxiety
- dress themselves (zippers, buttons)
- use the bathroom and wash their hands on their own
- put away toys and help out in other small ways at home
- practice opening and closing snack containers and using a water bottle
- play games, take turns and compromise
- develop a consistent bedtime routine



Getting Ready for Kindergarten



Read to your child every day:

- read stories together in *your first language* to help your child develop vocabulary, listening and speaking skills
- enjoy reading different types of books: picture books, information books, nursery rhymes, poetry
- encourage your child to talk about the pictures and stories as you read together
- visit your community library (when possible)

Getting Ready for Kindergarten



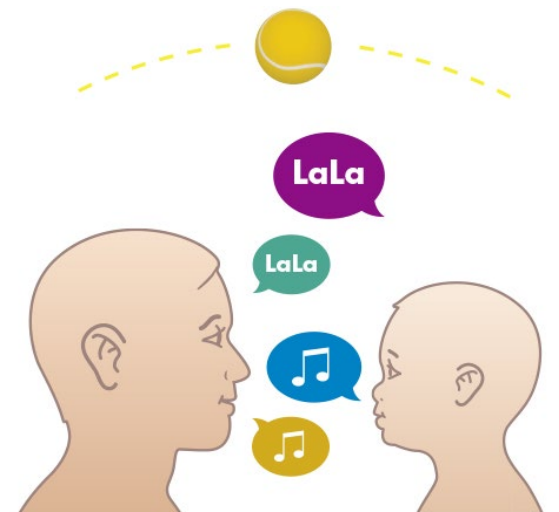
Take time to talk with your child about everyday activities:

- share special activities together, such as walks to the park
- talk about what you are seeing and doing
- talk, read, sing and play in *your first language* every day
- praise children for their efforts and courage to overcome setbacks
- talk about how it is okay to make mistakes

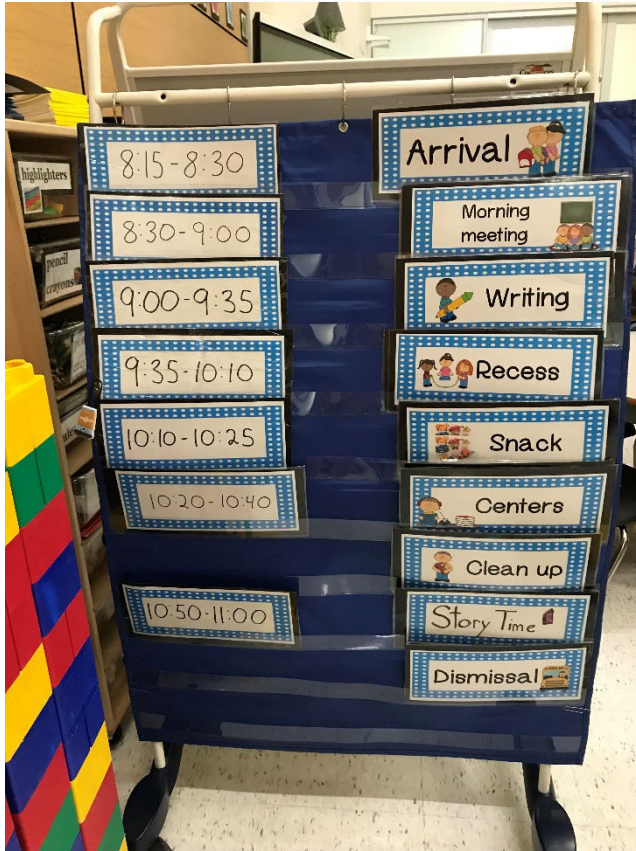


Recommend Medical Health Checks:

- Eye
- Hearing
- Medical
- Dental



Important Times & Dates



First Days of School – Staggered Entry:

- **Tuesday, September 2, 2025 (Surnames: A-L)**
- **Wednesday, Sept. 3 (Surnames: M-Z)**

Monday – Thursday: 8:15 a.m. – 10:50 am

Friday: 8:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Start/End times subject to change

Monday, Sept. 1: Labour Day – No School

Thursday, Sept. 4: Meet the Teacher Night (6:00-8:00)

Thursday, Sept. 11: School Council Meeting (1:30 – 3:00)

First Day – What to Bring



What Your Child Needs for School

- **Indoor Velcro/Buckle Shoes** - to be kept at school, which can be put on independently. NO laces please.
- **Big Backpack** – full-size to hold snowpants, library book & lunch
- **Healthy snack** in a reusable container – no nuts or peanuts please! Easy-open packaging please (ie. No yogurt tubes...)
- **Appropriate clothing** for the weather
- **Comfortable clothes** for play
- **Change of clothes**

Please label all personal items.

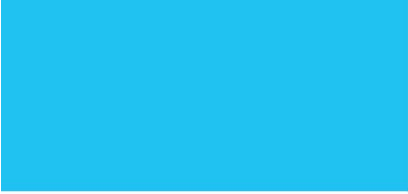
Please DO NOT Send

- Toys from home
- Sandals, flip-flops or slip-on shoes

Child's Play Before & After School Care



- Before & After School Care: Child's Play
<https://elbowpark.cbe.ab.ca/before-after-school-care>
 - No Kinder-care available
 - Only before and after school (3:10) and Fridays at 12:00



Additional Resources



The Calgary Public Library- Top Tips for Kindergarten Readiness*:
<https://calgarylibrary.ca/library-news/kitchen-table-classroom-kindergarten-readiness/>



The Calgary Public Library- Kindergarten Booklist:
https://calgary.bibliocommons.com/list/share/393767397_calgarylibrary_kids/1859193931_books_to_get_ready_for_kindergarten?_ga=2.167944481.1601611572.1619640025-939542020.1599601380



I'm Ready for Screens- Parent Resource:
https://banff.ca/DocumentCenter/View/11018/ImReadyForScreens_English

*Developed in collaboration with the CPL, Calgary Board of Education and the Calgary Catholic School Division



Additional Additional Resources

