

# Getting Ready for Kindergarten at DAVID CAMERON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Dear Parents,

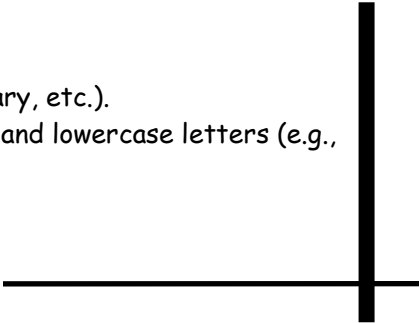
The following are some ways to help your child get ready for Kindergarten. Please encourage your child's efforts and remember that they are individuals and progress at their own rate.

## Getting Ready for Kindergarten

- Give your child ample opportunity to do creative art, to cut and paste and model clay and plasticine.
- Give your child ample opportunity to listen to good music and respond to rhyme.
- Give your child an opportunity to learn nursery rhymes, finger plays and a variety of poems.
- Set aside a time everyday to read to your child.
- Take your child to as many worthwhile places in the community as possible; park, farms, library, etc.
- Teach your child their full name, parent's names, phone numbers, address and city in which they live.
- Make opportunities for your child to play with others their own age.
- Establish habits of having them pick up and put away their toys, books and clothing.
- Help your child realize that he/she is one of a family group.
- Provide opportunities for your child to develop and carry out their own ideas in play, and to participate in family group activities, daily tasks and responsibilities.
- Teach them to put on and take off their jacket, boots or shoes.
- Help your child learn safety rules in crossing streets.
- Create a happy attitude toward school so that your child anticipates with pleasure their first school experience.

Copied from "The Best In Kids", B. Borycki and J. Sotski-Engle

## Language Development

- Listen to your child and encourage them to talk about every day activities.
  - Encourage your child to look at books, pictures, and to name items.
  - Read to your child lots of stories and ask questions about them.
  - Encourage your child to answer in a complete sentence.
  - Teach your child some nursery rhymes.
  - Take your child on lots of short trips, if you can (e.g., to the zoo, the library, etc.).
  - Help your child learn to recognize and print their name with initial capital and lowercase letters (e.g., Jamie).
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## Mathematics Development

- Help your child learn to count 20 items.
- Help your child learn to recognize and write the numerals to 10.
- Help your child learn to recognize basic shapes.



## Social Development

- Help your child learn to respect their own property as well as that of others.
- Help your child learn not to interrupt others when they are speaking.
- Give your child jobs to be responsible for (e.g., making their bed, putting away own toys).
- Help our child learn to follow an instruction the first time it is given.
- Help your child learn to be patient and take their turn for things.
- Help your child learn to share with others.

## Motor Development

- Help your child learn to colour pictures—staying within the lines.
- Help your child learn to hold a pencil in a good 2 or 3 finger grasp rather than their fist.
- Provide opportunities for your child to practice drawing and cutting.
- Help your child learn to catch and throw a medium size ball.
- Encourage your child to stand on one foot while you count to 8.
- Help your child learn to tie their own shoelaces and button and zip up their coat.
- Let your child use modeling clay or play dough, building blocks and puzzles.



## A Typical Day in Kindergarten

- Group Meeting/Calendar
- Language Arts:
  - reading
  - journal writing
  - spelling
  - phonemic awareness
  - story time
- Math:
  - group/individual activities
  - hands on manipulatives
- Snack Time
- Other activities could include:
  - book time
  - computer
  - library
  - fine arts
  - social studies/science
  - personal safety programs
  - P.E.
  - Centres

