

First School Kindergarten

Full Day, Half Day, Enrichment

Kindergarten is the foundation of your child's formal education. We have assembled a fabulous staff and a strong curriculum designed to develop your child's love of learning through individualized social and academic support with a low teacher to student ratio.

Meet Your Kindergarten Team

Barbara Columbus will be our morning session teacher. Barb has 22 years of experience teaching both 4 year olds and Kindergarten at First School. She received a BA degree in Elementary Education from West Virginia Wesleyan College and completed graduate classes at Indiana University of Pennsylvania and the University of Pittsburgh in science, math, and reading.

Tracey Kershner will be heading up the afternoon enrichment program. Next year will be Tracey's third year at First School. She has taught both 3 and 4 year olds and has had previous experience at Head Start and Miami University Pre-school in Middletown. Tracey holds a BS in Education from Ohio University.

Linda Zembower has been a part of First School for 20 years as the sensorimotor teacher and will continue this as well as some specialized activities and assistant teacher duties in the enrichment portion of the day.

Melissa Barton will be our full time assistant in the morning session allowing for a smaller teacher to student ratio.

Meredith Florkey has a Masters degree in language acquisition and is in her second year at First School. She will be involved with the afternoon program throughout the year involving the children in the First School Garden, International Week, and Destination Imagination.

A Sample Day

8:40 -9:00 Arrival Time and free choice

9:00-10:00 Whole group learning. New content is introduced and teacher guides participation with language, math, and science activities

10:00-10:15 Sensorimotor

10:15-10:30 Healthy snack provided by First School

10:30-11:00 Learning Centers with individual and small group work

11:00-11:15 Dismissal of morning students and free choice time

11:15-11:45 Lunch from home

11:45-12:15 Spanish

12:30-1:00 Destination Imagination

1:00-2:30 Enrichment learning

2:30 Dismissal

Enrichment Option

If children are enrolled at a public school they are eligible to take advantage of our afternoon enrichment program. This exciting opportunity will give the children an edge in their future education as problem solving, creativity, and project based learning will reinforce the academic skills learned in the morning. Spanish instruction will be an integral part of the program.

Curriculum

The Kindergarten Curriculum will be a rigorous and fun. It is designed specifically to the children in the program. Here is just a taste of what will be covered:

Reading

Letter recognition
Phonemic awareness
Simple word recognition
Retelling a story
Parts of a story
Writing process

Math

Counting to 20 and beyond
Value of money
Measurement
Sorting
Patterns
Graphing
Time

Science

Critical thinking skills
Natural vs. man-made
Weather changes
Solar system
Natural resources
Plant & animal traits

Social Studies

Collecting information
Good citizenship
Role of Government
Basic Geography
Beginning History-a sense of time
People-similarities & differences
Communication

Advantages of First School

Our small class size and afternoon enrichment option allows our teachers to explore topics in depth and provides a classroom that encourages a child-centered learning environment that supports and challenges every child so that they may reach their full potential.

Early Fives

The full day Kindergarten Program at First School provides an excellent choice for youngsters who are old enough for Kindergarten but may need extra support in social or academic areas. Our teachers are able to allow a more intensive, ongoing, and personal education.

Enrichment

Garden

The children will be able to take on a leadership role in our First School Garden. Planning, maintaining, and reaping the harvest will fit into the children's weekly activities.

Destination Imagination

As the weather no longer allows gardening, the children will participate in a team based, creative problem solving program. They will be given a problem that requires building using common materials and then will have to work together to create a story about that structure. This is a K-12 program that students could continue to be involved with for years.

Spanish

Research has shown that children are much more open to foreign language learning at a young age. Our program will allow for this early exposure to language several times each week.

Call Meredith Florkey or Stacey Yarger at 433-3455 for more information or to enroll your child.