



# Building Blocks Kindergarten 2017-18

We have an excellent kindergarten program instructed by an experienced teacher that builds on the skills taught in our Polar Bear Pre-Kindergarten classroom.

The curriculum consists of the McGraw Hill “Math” and “Treasures” Reading programs. The roomy classroom is furnished with school desks and has a private bathroom. Our smaller class size and comprehensive curriculum fully prepares our students for a smooth transition into first grade. Unlike public schools, we are able to start where Pre-K ends instead of reviewing all of the basics in order to get all of the students on the same page. The smaller class size also provides the students with individualized attention when needed. We often hear back that our graduates place at the top of their 1<sup>st</sup> grade class.

Our math program includes sequencing, patterns, skip counting, addition, subtraction, time and money. We also utilize the McGraw Hill Language and Literacy program and most, if not all students are reading by the end of the school year. We test in these subject areas throughout the year so the children are familiar with the practice. There is also homework most nights to get them used to the concept. Other subject areas covered include Science, Social Studies, Art and Computer Lab. There are also plenty of outdoor recreation times and fun activities included to keep everyone happy and busy.



Kindergarten hours are 8:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m.; tuition for families currently enrolled at our center is \$155 per week. There is also an extended day option that runs from 7:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. – activities are scheduled for before and after kindergarten. This optional program is an additional \$5 per day. There are no additional fees for books or supplies.

Report cards are issued in December, March and June and a cap and gown graduation ceremony is scheduled in mid-June. Children enrolled in the Kindergarten program have an additional week of tuition free vacation time during the winter and spring holidays if you elect to keep them home.

Enrolled students will have a special visitation day in the Kindergarten class later this Spring.

In-house enrollment begins now. If you would like to place your child on the Fall class list, please let the office know and include the registration fee (\$50) with your next tuition payment.



If you have any questions about the program feel free to email, call or speak with me at your convenience.



## Kindergarten at BBLC

With everyone currently involved in making decisions about Kindergarten, we've been fielding questions about the difference between our Kindergarten program and what is offered at the public schools in our area. I've compiled some of the advantages of our program.

First of all, it's "home" and they've known their classmates for years. There is no transitional stress - they are the "big" kids here. We have more parties, we celebrate everything! When the class starts reading they get to visit with their former teachers and read to their students - they really enjoy showing them how much they have learned.

We're always open - public schools have many scheduled closings and early dismissals during the year. We have a Camp Day program with fun activities on non-class days at no extra charge.

Our Kindergarten program is full day, has a much smaller class size (14 vs 28) and we begin where our Pre-K left off. It has a completely different feel than a public school classroom. We use school desks so that everyone has their own personal space and our daily schedule is paced perfectly with learning, social time and play. Our lunch is at noon - public schools are anywhere between 11:00 and 1:00. During "Morning Meeting" everyone gets to speak, every day.

We basically "hit the ground running". Most of the public schools have to review all of the basic concepts because not every child has had the benefit of attending a preschool program. Even though your child will be tested (and hopefully score high!) all of the other kindergarten classes are essentially the same, they do not factor in what your child has already learned. We know that our students have mastered the basic concepts so we can begin building on those skills immediately.

Our smaller class size allows the teacher to have a close relationship with all of the students and provide individual attention so that everything that is taught is being fully absorbed by every student. She can cater to the strengths and weaknesses of the class and keep the pace challenging.

We have daily homework, chapter tests and spelling tests so you can follow the progress that is made. You also have the advantage of seeing the teacher every day of the school year and can request a conference whenever you like. It's a more personal, hands-on experience.

At the end of the school year your child will be a confident student with a strong knowledge base, ready to tackle anything. We schedule a "Kindergarten Training" day where all of the enrolled children get to spend a day in the classroom with their classmates and see what Kindergarten is all about!

We are currently accepting registrations from our current Pre-K students and have provided more information on our Program on the reverse. If you would like to enroll your child, please email me or stop in the office and we will add them to our list. The Registration Fee (\$50) can be added to your next tuition payment.

If you have any questions feel free to stop in or email. If you would like to speak with this year's Kindergarten teacher, please let me know and I'll set up a meeting.