



2020-2021 Placement Guide

When choosing a class for your child, we want the best fit! Please use the following indicators as a **guide** to choose your child's class. Your child may not meet each indicator, but he or she should demonstrate strengths in several areas of the indicators. If you have questions, please call or meet with the director to discuss placement.

Foundations Class The Foundations class prepares students for structure, routine, and social play. The class introduces students to dramatic play, music, visual arts, literacy, and mathematics. Indicators of readiness for the Foundations class include:

- **Age:** 2 years old (by September 1 of the enrolled school year)
- **Language and Literacy:** follows simple requests; uses some words; may recognize a few letters in his or her name; shows interests in books; beginning scribbles
- **Cognition and General Development:** matches similar objects; imitates actions; recognizes familiar people, objects, and animals in pictures
- **Approaches to Learning:** sustains some interest in working on a task, but cannot ignore distractions; enjoys exploration and investigation

Fundamentals Class The Fundamentals class is centered on core knowledge instruction. The class continues to foster social play, dramatic play, music, and visual arts. Instruction in literacy, mathematics, and handwriting is structured, systematic, and individualized. Indicators of readiness for the Fundamentals class include:

- **Age:** 3 years old (by September 1 of the enrolled school year)
- **Language and Literacy:** follows two-step directions; understood by most people; can speak 4-6 word sentences; recognizes letters in his or her name and possibly a few other letters; begins writing letter-like forms or mock letters
- **Cognition and General Development:** recalls familiar objects and can sequence experiences; classify in two or more groups; begins dramatic play
- **Approaches to Learning:** sustains interest in working on a task and beginning to ignore most distractions; pursues a variety of tasks and an eagerness to learn; transitions from parallel play to associative play
- **Mostly potty trained:** understands the concept of being potty trained, but may still need some reminders and may still be prone to accidents

Pre-Kindergarten Class The Pre-Kindergarten class is designed to ready students for the rigors and expectations of Kindergarten. Indicators of readiness for the Pre-Kindergarten class include:

- **Age:** 4 years old (by September 1 of the enrolled school year)
- **Language and Literacy:** begins to recognize rhyming words; shows awareness that some words begin the same way; recognizes as many as 10 letters; produces the correct sound for several letters
- **Cognition and General Development:** uses more details in experiences; begins to apply experiences to new situations; begins to interact with other children during dramatic play
- **Approaches to Learning:** sustains work on interesting tasks while ignoring most distractions; begins to use a variety of resources to find answers to questions
- **Fully potty trained**