

Welcome to Kindergarten at Topeka Collegiate!



MAY 2021

KINDERGARTEN
Here We Come!

Hello! My name is Kelley Berryman. I love being a kindergarten teacher at Topeka Collegiate! I will be entering my 24th year with just as much excitement to learn and grow with my students as I have for the past 23 years! Although ways that we teach and learn may evolve and change as we progress in time, the excitement, curiosity, eagerness, and all around love of learning never changes in the eyes and minds of the 5 and 6 year olds that I get to spend my day with each and every day of the school year!

I have been very fortunate to learn with and from so many amazing students, parents and colleagues throughout the years. I have also been blessed with being a parent at our school while watching my two children thrive from Pre-K to their graduation from 8th grade. My son, Alec is a 2010 graduate of Topeka Collegiate. He went on to excel in academics and sports at Washburn Rural High School and then onto receiving a degree in Chemical Engineering at KU. My daughter, Myah is a 2015 graduate of Topeka Collegiate. She is also a graduate of Washburn Rural High School and is currently pursuing a degree from Washburn University in Forensic Science. I could not be prouder of the young people they have become and will gladly tell you all about them if you ask. ☺ My husband, Jason is a teacher and Art Department Chair at Topeka West High School. He is completing his 25th year of teaching!

Our Kindergarten program at Topeka Collegiate is one that we are always striving to make developmentally appropriate, enrich students' academic abilities, meet each student at their skill level, promote individuality and teamwork, enhance a child's natural curiosity, and encourage students to love learning. Throughout the year, we will explore a different theme each week. We explore, learn and create with themes such as: Ocean Life, Rocks and Minerals, Community Helpers, Martin Luther King, Jr. and African Countries, Asian Countries, Food and Nutrition, Zoo Animals, Reptiles and Amphibians, and many more. We incorporate the books we read and the projects we do around each of our themes. The students greatly enjoy diving into each theme and look forward to finding out what the next weekly theme will be.

We take pride in our Kindergarten academic program. Our phonics program is *SRA Imagine It!*. We cover each consonant sound, short and long vowel sounds, consonant digraphs, blends, y as a vowel, and inflectional endings. We have weekly spelling tests beginning in January. The words are created for further practice of the phonics skills. Throughout the year, the students will begin to recognize, read and write many sight words on an individual basis. We use a Guided Reading Program to further build on reading skills. Students will be in a group with peers with similar reading levels to progress and challenge themselves at their individual levels. We will write in journals

10 Ways to Prepare your child for KINDERGARTEN

1. **Read books together** and recite nursery rhymes or practice rhyming everyday. Celebrate when they are reading environmental print: Target, Cheerios, Legos, Best Buy, etc.
2. Develop **fine motor skills**: holding a pencil, coloring, drawing people or animals, drawing shapes, cutting with scissors.
3. Practice **printing first name** using only the first letter capitalized and using top to bottom progression.
4. Learn to follow 2-step and 3-step **instructions**: “Please go get your shoes and put them on.” “Please pick up your toys, put them away, and come join me to read together.”
5. Use good **manners**: “Please,” “Thank you,” “Excuse me,” “May I have a turn?” “I’m sorry.”
6. Talk about social skills: sharing, taking turns, positive words to others, along with how to respond when they are frustrated or angry.
7. Help your child take **responsibility**: clean up messes, dress themselves, zip their coat or jacket, put on their shoes, ask for help when needed.
8. Practice **letter and sound recognition**. Practice saying the letters and their sounds often.
9. Practice **counting and recognizing numbers** to at least 20...go beyond if they are ready!
10. Help your child learn to say their **first and last name**, their birthdate, and their address and phone number.

Celebrate learning and playing together!



Kindergarten Readiness Skills

Work Habits

- Listens to stories in a group without interrupting
- Pays attention for short periods of time to adult-directed tasks
- Can follow rules and simple directions
- Can work independently and with a group
- Can attend to and finish tasks

Social Skills

- Understands actions have both causes and effects
- Able to share with others
- Uses words instead of being physical when angry
- Expresses feelings and needs
- Waits his/her turn
- Manages bathroom needs
- Cares for belongings and respects other's belongings
- Separates from parents without being upset

Speech/Articulation

- Speaks understandably
- Talks in complete sentences of five to six words.

Early Academic Skills

- Identifies rhyming sounds/words
- Identifies the beginning sound of some words
- Identifies most alphabet letters—capital and lowercase
- Knows sounds of many of the letters
- Says, writes and recognizes own name
- Knows how old they are
- Writes several of the letters
- Sorts similar objects by color, size and shape
- Counts to 10 (or beyond)
- Recognizes numbers to 10 (or beyond)
- Uses one-to-one correspondence when counting
- Knows basic colors
- Recognizes simple shapes



Entering Kindergarten Summer Packet

Dear Entering Kindergartners and Parents,

Included in this packet are calendars and lists filled with fun activities to help keep your brains working and learning this summer. You can do as many of the activities as you are able to do each day or each week. Please find what works best for your family and enjoy trying some, repeating them if you find favorites, and making up your own learning games or ideas if you become creative! Please have your child color or place a sticker on the calendars of all of the Math and Reading/Writing Activities that they complete.

We have also included some suggested books/series. There are a wide variety of books. Each child is ready for reading at many different stages at this age. Please choose what is best for your child and what is interesting to them. They may enjoy reading to you, but always remember that reading to them and together is also VERY beneficial in their early reading successes. A dot-to-dot page has been included as a fun reading incentive. Your child may connect one dot at a time for each book that they/you read over the summer. After they have read at least 28 books, they should color the finished scene to celebrate their great work! They may also like to record all of the books on the Reading Log to show their class.

Please bring your packet with you when you come to see your classroom on Monday, August 16th! It will be exciting to see all of your learning fun from the summer!

Happy Summer!

Your Kindergarten Teachers

June 2021




Summer Enrichment

Entering Kindergarten

READING, WRITING and Fun in the Sun!

Have fun learning with some or all of the suggested activities below. There are reading, writing, large motor and fine motor suggestions to help strengthen and grow your skills throughout the summer. Happy Summer !



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		¹ Read a children's magazine.	² Practice writing your name in sidewalk chalk, shaving cream, or marker.	³ Eat an apple. Tell someone how it tastes, feels, smells, etc.	⁴ Make a collage with an old magazine. Tell someone about it.	⁵ Look for items in your house that start with the letter "Aa."
⁶ Blow some bubbles. How many "Bb" words can you think of?	⁷ Choose a book. How many words begin with the letter "Cc?"	⁸ Draw a picture of animals that begin with "Dd."	⁹ Check out books from the library.	¹⁰ Build with Legos. Tell someone about your creation.	¹¹ Help write a shopping list. Can you write some of the words?	¹² Help cook something with eggs. Are they excellent?
¹³ Use tweezers or tongs to pick up cotton balls or pom-poms.	¹⁴ Tell a family member about a favorite book of yours.	¹⁵ How much can you find that starts with the letter Ff?	¹⁶ Practice buttoning, snapping and zipping.	¹⁷ Read a poem together from a poetry book for children.	¹⁸ Draw a picture of lots of green objects. (Grapes, grass, goats, etc.)	¹⁹ String a necklace with beads or cereal.
²⁰ Make your own book and read it to a family member or friend.	²¹ Use scissors, tape/ glue, markers or crayons to make a picture.	²² Write labels for things in the house (window, door, clock, etc.)	²³ Read a book about animals.	²⁴ Draw lots of hearts and tell someone why you love them.	²⁵ Read a Dr. Seuss book.	²⁶ Write a letter or note to a friend.
²⁷ Draw a beach picture. Write words to label the picture. 	²⁸ Relax and read a book outside.	²⁹ Read a fairy tale.	³⁰ Roll out play dough and make letters with it.			

July 2021




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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Jump like a kangaroo or fly a kite.	2 Use shaving cream to practice writing letters.	3 Read a book about something that you love to learn about.
4	5 Count how many times you lick a lollipop.	6 Start a journal. Write what you did today.	7 Read a book on www.starfall.com	8 Practicing tying your shoes.	9 Make a macaroni picture. What else begins with "Mm?"	10 Read a counting book.
11 Read signs, cereal boxes, a menu, etc. What letters and words do you know?	12 Take a walk. What can you find that begins with "Nn?"	13 Draw or paint a picture about a book that you have read.	14 Write a letter to someone that you love.	15 Cook or bake with a family member. What ingredients do you need?	16 How many opposites can you think of? Write a list of some.	17 Read a book by your favorite author.
18 Read your favorite book wearing your favorite pajamas.	19 Make a treasure map. Label the parts of your map.	20 How many things can you rhyme?	21 Ask someone 5 questions. What is a question? Practice making question marks.	22 Draw a picture of your family. Write names next to the people (and pets).	23 Find items in your house that begin with "Rr." What did you find?	24 Tell someone at least six reasons you are special.
25 Write your name in sidewalk chalk. Can you write your last name too?	26 Read a book about the beach or the ocean.	27 Look at a map. Talk about where you have been. Where would you like to go?	28 Find vowels in an old magazine. Use scissors to cut them out and glue onto paper.	29 Measure something in inches. Write a list of what you measured.	30 Write letters outside with chalk.	31 Make a picture using stencils.
						

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Looking forward to a great Kindergarten year !!!



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1 Do an obstacle course. Go over, under, around, up, between, beside, etc.	2 Look for vowels in books, signs, a cereal box, etc. A, E, I, O, U	3 Read color words on your markers or crayons. Can you read them?	4 Read a book about going to kindergarten or school.	5 Practice learning how to tie your shoes. It may take you some time to learn.	6 Can you zip your jacket? Practice this a few times.	7 Make a list and gather everything you need for Kindergarten!
8 Go to the zoo. What do the animals' names begin with? Explore the signs.	9 Get your backpack ready for school!	10 Draw a picture and write about how you feel about starting Kindergarten.	11 Get your backpack ready for school! Please choose one that will fit 11 x 9 inch folders.	12 Hopes & Dreams Conferences @ TCS!	13 Hopes & Dreams Conferences @ TCS!	14 Read a favorite book with someone!
15 Draw a picture of yourself on the first day of school. How do you look?	16 Come see your classroom today! (Anytime between 10am-12pm).	17 First Day of School (1/2 Day)! 8:15am-12:00pm	18 1 st Full Day of Classes! 8:15am-3:30pm	19	20	21 
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

June 2021

Think Summer, Fun, and MATH!

Summer Enrichment

Entering Kindergarten



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 6 Look for the different shapes in traffic signs. What did you find?	7 Ask your child to predict how many spoonfuls to eat their cereal. Count to find out.	1 See how many places you can find triangles today.	2 Play the game I Spy. Give each other clues about shapes to find.	3 Look for shapes around your house or outside. What shapes did you find?	4 Grab a handful of coins. Sort them. Can you name them? How much are they worth?	5 Make a guess. How long do you think it will take to get dressed? Have someone time you. How close was your guess?
13 Find five things in your house that come in pairs.	14 Make a "911" and/or "My Telephone Number" sign and hang it near a phone.	8 Try telling time by the hour. Look for the big (minute) hand to be on the 12.	9 Name different places you see numbers outside. (Street signs, stores, etc.)	10 Count the steps from the kitchen to your room and the kitchen to the living room. Which is farther? Closer?	11 Arrange the age of your family members from youngest to oldest.	12 Count the number of stairs in your house or the number of steps from your car to a store.
20 Look for numbers everywhere you go today. Street signs, stores, license plates... Happy Father's Day!	21 Tell what you did today in order. "First, I got dressed. Second, I went to school." etc.	22 Count how many times you can jump on two feet for one minute.	23 Draw a picture of the license plate of your car. Circle the largest number.	24 Look inside a grocery store flyer. Cut out the numbers 1-20. Glue them in order on paper.	18 How many red, blue, orange, and green things can you find in your kitchen? Write down the numbers.	19 Write the names of the people in your house. Count the letters in each and circle the name that has the most letters.
27 Create a pattern using the shoes in your house. Draw a picture of your pattern.	28 Go on a Shape Hunt. Look for items shaped like a square, rectangle and circle in your house.	29 Practice your phone number today. Say it and write it.	30 Take turns clapping a rhythm or pattern. Copy another person and have them copy you.		25 How high can you count? Practice counting coins, buttons, cereal, or other objects.	26 Draw a picture of your home. Use a square for the house, a circle for the sun, and a triangle for the roof.

July 2021

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Entering Kindergarten

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 <p>4 Draw a circle in the middle of paper. Now change the circle into a picture.</p>	<p>5 Set the table for dinner. Count the plates, cups, spoons, knives and forks.</p>	<p>6 Create a hopscotch pattern outside and play with a friend.</p>	 <p>7 Create a pattern necklace using different types of macaroni or cereal.</p>	<p>8 Draw a picture of your family from shortest to tallest and label each one.</p>	<p>9 On a piece of paper or chalkboard, practice writing the numbers from one to ten.</p>	<p>10 If your parents have a coin jar, ask them if you can sort the coins. Talk about similarities and differences of the coins.</p>
<p>11 Practice saying your address and telephone number.</p>	<p>12 Using a pencil, measure how high your bed is. A chair? A stuffed animal? The table?</p>	<p>13 Create a number book from 0-10. On each page, draw an item to match the number.</p>	<p>14 Continue your number book from 11-20.</p>	<p>15 Count aloud as you jump from your bed to the bathroom. Now skip back to your room.</p>	<p>16 Play store. Gather a group of objects. Give each a price. Write the price on a piece of paper. Pretend to buy items.</p>	<p>17 Count all the lamps or lights in your home. Which room has the most lights? Which room has the least?</p>
<p>18 Find five things in your house that are as tall as you are.</p>	<p>19 Take a cookie today and divide it into half. Can you divide pretzels, grapes, or some other food into halves?</p>	<p>20 Fill five cups with different amounts of water. Put them from least amount to most. Most to least.</p>	<p>21 Find as many shapes as you can in books, magazines or signs when you are out and about.</p>	<p>22 Make a pattern using blocks, Legos, or other toys in your house.</p>	<p>23 Help bake or cook something. Talk about the measurement tools. What is a cup? Teaspoon? How hot is the oven?</p>	<p>24 Use a scale to measure how much you weigh. Weigh other objects in your house. Which is heaviest? Lightest?</p>
<p>25 Count whenever. How many cars do you see? People with red shirts? Tiles on the floor? Books on the shelf?</p>	<p>26 Sort some colorful candy into color groupings. Which has the most? Which has the least?</p>	<p>27 Do a yes/no survey. Ask your family, "Do you like rain?" or "Do you like cats or dogs?" or "What is your favorite color?"</p>	<p>28 Count all the chairs in your house. Count all the tables. Count all the beds. Which do you have the most of?</p>	<p>29 Count the number of steps it takes you to get from your front door to the refrigerator.</p>	<p>30 Help match the socks from the laundry.</p>	<p>31 Use a ruler to measure objects using inches. Can you find anything that is 12 inches long?</p>

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1 Count backwards as you eat one favorite yummy treat at a time. (cereal, M&Ms, Skittles, peanuts, raisins, etc.)	2 Practice your phone number. Can you say it? Maybe you can say it to a tune or sing it to help learn it.	3 Count with someone. How high can you count? Try counting by 10s with someone.	4 Find patterns in the house, on your clothes, or make a pattern.	5 Balance on one foot. How long can you do it? Balance on the other foot. Which foot can you balance on longer?	6 Which is your left hand? Which is your right hand?	7 Learn your zip code. What city do you live in? What state? What country?
8 Practice adding objects together. Use blocks, pennies, your fingers, marshmallows, etc. to help you.	9 Look at a calendar. How many Mondays are in July and August? How many more days until the first day of school?	10 Practice writing numbers 0-20. Use a pencil, sidewalk chalk or shaving cream to write them.	11 Bounce a ball. Count how many times you can bounce it.	12 Hopes & Dreams Conferences @ TCS!	13 Hopes & Dreams Conferences @ TCS!	14 Drop a handful of pennies. How many are heads up? How many are tails?
15 Count how many of the activities on the calendars you did over the summer. Good job!	16 Visit your classroom today! (Anytime between 10am-12pm).	17 School begins! (1/2 Day) 8:15am-12:00pm	18 1 st Full Day of School 8:15am-3:30pm	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 	30	31 				

Summer Reading Fun and Website Suggestions

It's Not Easy Being a Bunny by Marilyn Sadler
Pinkalicious: Fairy House by Victoria Kann (more in series)
Morris Goes to School by B. Wiseman
Biscuit Find a Friend by Alyssa Capucilli (more in series)
Loose Tooth by Lola M. Schaefer
Sammy the Seal by Syd Hoff
What's That, Mittens? By Lola M. Schaefer (more in series)
Digger the Dinosaur by Rebecca Kai Dotlich (more in series)
My Book About Me by Dr. Seuss
The Cat in the Hat by Dr. Seuss
One Fish Two Fish Red Fish Blue Fish by Dr. Seuss
Green Eggs and Ham by Dr. Seuss
Hop on Pop by Dr. Seuss
Fox in Sox by Dr. Seuss
Frog and Toad Are Friends by Arnold Lobel
Harold and the Purple Crayon by Crockett Johnson
The Kissing Hand by Audrey Penn
Guess How Much I Love You by Sam McBratney
How I Became a Pirate by Melinda Long
It's Hard to Be Five by Jaime Lee Curtis
Today I Feel Silly by Jaime Lee Curtis
The Night Before Kindergarten by Natasha Wing
Kindergarten Diary by Antoinette Portis
Kindergarten Rocks by Katie Davis
Panda Kindergarten by Joanne Ryder
Kindergarten Cat by J. Patrick Lewis
Kindergarten Countdown by Anna Jane Hays
Countdown to Kindergarten by Alison McGhee

Websites:

www.starfall.com

www.sheppardsoftware.com

www.pbskids.org

www.seussville.com

www.abcya.com

Name _____

Every time I _____, I get to connect a dot!

