

Welcome to Kindergarten at Topeka Collegiate!



MAY 2022

KINDERGARTEN Here We Come!

Hello! My name is Kelley Berryman. I love being a kindergarten teacher at Topeka Collegiate! I will be entering my 25th year with just as much excitement to learn and grow with my students as I have for the past 24 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. He married the love of his life last October and we could not have been happier to officially welcome Mary Kate to our family! My daughter Myah is a 2015 graduate of Topeka Collegiate. She is also a graduate of Washburn Rural High School, is currently pursuing a degree from Washburn University in Forensic Science and loves working with dogs at Woof's Play and Stay. 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 27th 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

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throughout the year. You will have the opportunity to see many of their writings on display in the hallway. For Reading, we also use Big Books and Literature Sets to read and learn concepts together. Our handwriting program is Handwriting Without Tears. This program gives students a specific language for the formation of each letter. In math we use a very hands-on approach with *Math in Focus*, while practicing patterning, measurement, addition, subtraction, and counting in various ways to name a few skills. Our weekly themes help us learn social studies concepts. In addition, we have an SEL (Social-Emotional Learning) curriculum that we incorporate into each week. Our SEL curriculum is ReThinkEd, however there are always additional opportunities to grow and expand on in this area each and every day. This is a huge part of a young child's learning!

We have developed many traditional activities that are remembered by students as they progress through the grades at Topeka Collegiate. We finish our first full week of kindergarten with a Water Day to celebrate the ending of our Ocean Life theme, we make a bicycle course during Transportation, we put on our annual Safety Puppet Show for families and our Pre-K friends during Safety Week, we build cereal box castles for each student during European Countries, and the students bring in stuffed animals to build a "Stuffed Animal Zoo" and give tours to the Pre-K during Zoo Week. We also incorporate field trips into some of our themes. We walk around the Kansas Historical Museum nature trail during our Woodland Animals theme, we venture to the pumpkin patch during Seasons and Halloween, and we visit the zoo during our Zoo Week. Through the wide variety of themes and activities, we find something special and of interest for everyone.

Our day is filled with learning and fun in our classroom and in the resource classes we attend each week. Along with all of the academic experiences your child will have at Topeka Collegiate, we give the students a free time to pretend, build, color, and explore with their peers. They are able to have three recesses each day as well. We set aside a short time in the afternoon for the children to reenergize with a rest/story time. Again, we understand that social growth is a very important part of your child's learning experience, and through free time and recesses they are able to grow and blossom in this area.

We welcome parental involvement and appreciate each child and their unique personalities! We are so excited for you to come learn and grow with us! It is going to be a great year!

Please see the packet attached for additional summer learning fun!

Mrs. Berryman





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.

I 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 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 Tuesday, August 16th! It will be exciting to see all of your learning fun from the summer!

Happy Summer!

Mrs. Berryman

June 2022




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

July 2022




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

August 2022

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Looking forward to a great Kindergarten year !!!




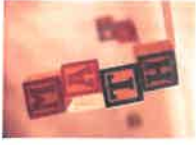
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|---|--|---|--|---|
|  | | | | | | |
| | 1 Look for vowels in books, signs, a cereal box, etc. A, E, I, O, U | 2 Read color words on your markers or crayons. Can you read them? | 3 Read a book about going to kindergarten or school. | 4 Practice learning how to tie your shoes. It may take you some time to learn. | 5 Can you zip your jacket? Practice this a few times. | 6 Make a list and gather everything you need for Kindergarten! |
| 7 Go to the zoo. What do the animals' names begin with? Explore the signs. | 8 Get your backpack ready for school! | 9 Draw a picture and write about how you feel about starting Kindergarten. | 10 Get your backpack ready for school! Please choose one that will fit 11 x 9 inch folders. | 11 Hopes & Dreams Conferences @ Topeka Collegiate! | 12 Hopes & Dreams Conferences @ Topeka Collegiate! | 13 Read a favorite book with someone! |
| 14 Draw a picture of yourself on the first day of school. How do you look? | 15 Do an obstacle course. Go over, under, around, up, between, beside, etc. | 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 2022

Think Summer, Fun, and MATH!

Summer Enrichment

Entering Kindergarten



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

July 2022

Think Summer, Fun and MATH!

Summer Enrichment

Entering Kindergarten

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|--|---|--|---|---|
|  3 Draw a circle in the middle of paper. Now change the circle into a picture. | 4 Set the table for dinner. Count the plates, cups, spoons, knives and forks. | 5 Create a hopscotch pattern outside and play with a friend. |  6 Create a pattern necklace using different types of macaroni or cereal. | 7 Draw a picture of your family from shortest to tallest and label each one. | 1 Count all of the trees, houses, mailboxes or cars you see on a walk together. | 2 Find all of your shoes. Count how many you have. How many are just for summer? How many are for winter? |
| 10 Practice saying your address and telephone number. | 11 Using a pencil, measure how high your bed is. A chair? A stuffed animal? The table? | 12 Create a number book from 0-10. On each page, draw an item to match the number. | 13 Continue your number book from 11-20. | 14 Count aloud as you jump from your bed to the bathroom. Now skip back to your room. | 15 Play store. Gather a group of objects. Give each a price. Write the price on a piece of paper. Pretend to buy items. | 16 Count all the lamps or lights in your home. Which room has the most lights? Which room has the least? |
| 17 Find five things in your house that are as tall as you are. | 18 Take a cookie today and divide it into half. Can you divide pretzels, grapes, or some other food into halves? | 19 Fill five cups with different amounts of water. Put them from least amount to most. Most to least. | 20 Find as many shapes as you can in books, magazines or signs when you are out and about. | 21 Make a pattern using blocks, Legos, or other toys in your house. | 22 Help bake or cook something. Talk about the measurement tools. What is a cup? Teaspoon? How hot is the oven? | 23 Use a scale to measure how much you weigh. Weigh other objects in your house. Which is heaviest? Lightest? |
| 24 Count whenever. How many cars do you see? People with red shirts? Tiles on the floor? Books on the shelf? | 25 Sort some colorful candy into color groupings. Which has the most? Which has the least? | 26 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?" | 27 Count all the chairs in your house. Count all the tables. Count all the beds. Which do you have the most of? | 28 Count the number of steps it takes you to get from your front door to the refrigerator. | 29 Help match the socks from the laundry. | 30 Use a ruler to measure objects using inches. Can you find anything that is 12 inches long? |
| 31 Play a math game on a computer or other device. | | | | | | |

August 2022

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| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|--|--|--|---|---|
| Count backwards as you eat one favorite yummy treat at a time. (cereal, M&Ms, Skittles, peanuts, raisins, etc.) | 1 Practice your phone number. Can you say it? Maybe you can say it to a tune or sing it to help learn it. | 2 Count with someone. How high can you count? Try counting by 10s with someone. | 3 Find patterns in the house, on your clothes, or make a pattern. | 4 Balance on one foot. How long can you do it? Balance on the other foot. Which foot can you balance on longer? | 5 Which is your left hand? Which is your right hand? | 6 Learn your zip code. What city do you live in? What state? What country? |
| 7 Practice adding objects together. Use blocks, pennies, your fingers, marshmallows, etc. to help you. | 8 Look at a calendar. How many Mondays are in July and August? How many more days until the first day of school? | 9 Practice writing numbers 0-20. Use a pencil, sidewalk chalk or shaving cream to write them. | 10 Bounce a ball. Count how many times you can bounce it. | 11 Hopes & Dreams Conferences @ Topeka Collegiate! | 12 Hopes & Dreams Conferences @ Topeka Collegiate! | 13 Drop a handful of pennies. How many are heads up? How many are tails? |
| 14 Count how many of the activities on the calendars you did over the summer. Good job! | 15 Count backwards as you eat one favorite yummy treat at a time. (cereal, M&Ms, Skittles, peanuts, raisins, etc.) | 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.pbskids.org

www.seussville.com

www.abcya.com

Name _____

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

