



PRE-KINDERGARTEN/KINDERGARTEN SCREENING INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Dear Parents,

The information received from the pre-kindergarten/kindergarten screening will be used to plan learning experiences for your child in order to make their school year successful. It will also assist in designing programs for children who require additional support. Parents will be notified if follow-up is required.

The screening provides a holistic snapshot of each child in the following areas:

- Basic Concepts
- Problem Solving
- Visual Discrimination
- Speech Sounds
- Sentence Formation
- Pre-reading Skills
- Pencil/paper Skills
- Scissor skills
- Hand Strength
- Balance & Coordination
- Listening & Following Directions

Families will be contacted by their local school to book a screening appointment for their child.

Staff from the Christ the Redeemer Catholic Education Centre including: the Student Services PUF Coordinator, Speech Language Pathologist and Occupational Therapist will be on site to assist the local school staff with the screening process.



PLAY FOSTERS CREATIVITY, FLEXIBILITY & LEARNING

"Play is a doorway to learning. Play stimulates our imaginations, helping us adapt and solve problems. Play arouses curiosity, which leads to discovery and creativity. The components of play; curiosity, discovery, novelty, risk-taking, trial and error, pretense, games, social etiquette, and other increasingly complex adaptive activities- are the same components of learning".

Activities that help prepare your child for school

Color on an easel, wall or other upright surface (window, bathtub)



Try using gel pens, fun paper, bathtub crayons, sidewalk chalk

To encourage scissor skills, start with tongs/tweezers and pom poms- cut straws, tin foil, old playing cards



Play with play-dough. Use both hands, roll balls, squash them, pinch the dough between the index finger and thumb, make snakes



Practice drawing shapes before writing letters (circle, cross, X, square)

Try drawing in the sand/rice/gel bag



To encourage a proper grasp on a pencil, use small, broken crayons or pieces of chalk

Find opportunities to sort objects:

- By color (e.g., all the red together)
- By size (e.g., big/small)
- By category (e.g., food, animal, vehicle)

Before reading a book, talk about what is happening in each of the pictures (e.g. Here the ducks are swimming).



Sing songs, (e.g. Nursery Rhymes)

Play age appropriate games which provide opportunities to count and talk about colors.



Find opportunities to talk about basic concepts:

- Same/different (e.g. have your child help you pair socks that go together)
- Top/bottom (e.g., have your child help put away clothes in the appropriate drawer)

+ **Christ The Redeemer**
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