

Need More Information about your Elementary School?

Catawba County Schools

Website: www.catawbaschools.net

Central Office	828-464-8333
Balls Creek Elementary	828-464-4766
Banoak Elementary	704-462-2849
Blackburn Elementary	704-462-1344
Catawba Elementary	828-241-3131
Claremont Elementary	828-459-7921
Clyde Campbell Elementary	828-256-2769
Lyle Creek Elementary	828-464-0299
Maiden Elementary	828-428-8769
Mountain View Elementary	828-294-2020
Oxford Elementary	828-459-7220
St. Stephens Elementary	828-256-2570
Sherrills Ford Elementary	828-478-2662
Snow Creek Elementary	(not yet available)
Startown Elementary	828-464-1257
Sweetwater Elementary	828-327-3689
Tuttle Elementary	828-428-3080
Webb A. Murray Elementary	828-256-2196

Hickory Public Schools

Website: www.hickoryschools.net

Central Office	828-322-2855
Jenkins Elementary	828-327-3491
Longview Elementary	828-327-2070
Oakwood Elementary	828-322-1340
Southwest Elementary	828-324-8884
Viewmont Elementary	828-324-7049

Newton-Conover City Schools

Website: www.nccs.k12.nc.us

Central Office	828-464-3191
Conover School	828-464-9532
Shuford Elementary	828-464-1973
South Newton Elementary	828-464-4061
Thornton Elementary	828-464-2631



Answers to Some Common Questions....

How can I find out what school district I live in?

Call Catawba County Schools at 464-8333.
Call Newton-Conover City Schools at 464-3191.
Call Hickory Public Schools at 322-2855.

OR

Find out your school district on-line:
Go to www.gis.catawba.nc.us/website/School/school_search.asp
From there just type in your home address, click on "FIND" and find out which school district you live in!

How can I learn more about health assessments, immunizations, and/or child safety seats?

Call the Health Department at 695-5800.

How can I get information about before-school and after-school programs?

Call the Children's Resource Center at 328-8228.

What if I have questions about my preschool-age child's development?

If you're in Catawba County Schools or Newton-Conover City School district, call Brenda Sigmon at 466-1748. If you're in the Hickory Public Schools district, call Kathy Giovannini at 328-6738, x-331.

What if I'd like information about how to access parent education classes and parent support groups in Catawba County?

Call the Catawba County Parenting Network at 465-8151.

How can I get more information about how to help our transition into Kindergarten?

When you register for school, you will get a lot of information and additional resources from your elementary school to help you and your family!

Help your Child Get Excited about Kindergarten!

Check these Kindergarten-themed books and others out at your local library!

The Berenstain Bears Go to School (Stan Berenstain)

Franklin Goes to School (Paulette Bourgeois)

Never Spit on your Shoes (Denys Cazet)

Liar, Liar, Pants on Fire (Miriam Cohen)

School Bus (Donald Crews)

The Library Dragon (Carmen A. Deedy)

I'll Go to School If (Nancy Bo Flood)

Bus Stops (Taro Gomi)

When You Go to Kindergarten (James Howe)

Sparky and Eddie: The First Day of School (Tony Johnston)

Little Bear Goes to Kindergarten (Jutta Langreuter)

Rachel Parker, Kindergarten Show-off (Anne M. Martin)

Miss Bindergarten Gets Ready for Kindergarten (J. Slate)

Timothy Goes to School (Rosemary Wells)

Alphabet City (Audrey and Don Wood)

Pooh's First Day at School (Kathleen W. Zoehfeld)

The 5 "R's" for Parents!

Make sure your child:

- Gets plenty of REST
- Eats REALLY healthy foods
- Has ROUTINES and a schedule
- Attends school REGULARLY
- Is READ to every day

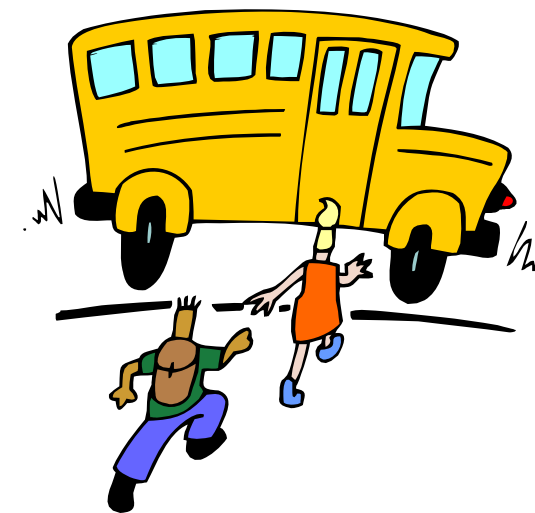
Parents ... you are more important in the life of your child now than you have ever been! You know your child better than anyone else does. You were your child's first teacher and you will always be the most important one.



Ready Schools Task Force
Catawba County Partnership for Children
P.O. Box 3123, Hickory, NC 28603
828-328-4848
www.catawbakids.com
www.ncreadyschools.net

Brochure printed in February 2009

Kindergarten
is Something
to Smile About!



Helpful things to
know before your
child enters
Kindergarten

Cut here and post for future reference!

Kindergarten Registration

By NC state law, registration in kindergarten for the 2009-2010 school year is open to all children who turn **5 years old** on or before

August 31, 2009

1. Where will your child go to school? If you don't know, you can visit or call an elementary school close to your home and ask. Phone numbers are listed on this brochure.
2. Bring the following items when you register:
 - Your child's Social Security card
 - Proof of residency (property deed, rental lease or utility bill are acceptable)
 - Your child's certified birth certificate with seal (photocopies and hospital certificates are not acceptable)
 - Your child's updated immunization records
3. Medical information (completed health assessment form), signed by a physician or the health department, will be required when you register your child for Kindergarten or on the first day of school. Your school will provide the necessary form.



What Does My Child Really Need to Know?

There is a lot of confusion among parents as to what skills really help a child in school!

Study after study has shown that the most important qualities that help a child adjust well to school are:

- Showing an interest in learning about new things
- Being willing to join in new activities and new situations
- Having good language comprehension skills
- Expressing ideas and feelings clearly most of the time
- Showing consideration for the feelings of others
- Taking initiative in planning and doing things
- Thinking of ways to solve problems
- Asking for help appropriately
- Being able to adjust when things don't go just right
- Being able to learn from adult guidance

Is My Child "Prepared for Success?"

The **National Education Goals Panel** has identified 5 important areas of development to consider in determining how prepared a child will be for success in Kindergarten.

Here is some information about the 5 categories and what they really mean for you and your child!

1. Approaches Toward Learning

Children who are successful in school enjoy learning! Encourage your child's curiosity. Help your child to express his or her creativity and imagination. Children learn best when they are having fun!

2. Health and Physical Development

Children must have their basic needs met for health, rest, nutrition, and feeling safe before they are able to learn. Make sure your child has regular medical check-ups, visits the dentist, brushes teeth regularly, has a good routine with lots of sleep, eats healthy foods, and EXERCISES!

3. Social Development & Emotional Well-Being

The art of making friends, sharing, cooperating, and getting along with others is very important for children who are entering Kindergarten. The best way to help your child to develop these skills is through supervised play with other children.

4. Language Development & Communication

The development of language skills - listening, speaking, reading, and writing - is critical to your child's success throughout their school years and the rest of their lives. Ask your child open-ended questions. Read with your child every day! Praise your child's attempts at writing or scribbling.

5. General Knowledge

Children need opportunities to think and solve problems. Work with your child to learn his or her first and last name, your name, your phone number, and your address. Talk with your child about what you see around town. Encourage exploration!

What is Kindergarten Screening?

A typical kindergarten screening helps teachers and other school staff to get to know your child and to understand the different ability levels that they need to accommodate in your child's kindergarten class. The screening results help the teachers get a feel for the children's strengths and what areas may need more attention when the school year starts. There is no pass or fail!

Your child is eligible for kindergarten based on his or her age (must turn **5 by August 31, 2009**) and not by his or her screening results.

Generally, kindergarten screenings involve short activities in the following areas:

Motor Area

Gross motor items include catching, jumping, hopping, and skipping. Fine motor items include building with blocks, cutting, copying shapes and letters, and writing.

Language Area

Items include answering simple personal questions (name, age), naming objects and actions, and rhyming.

Concepts Area

Items include pointing to named body parts, naming or identifying colors, counting blocks, and sorting shapes.

Self-Help Development Area

Looks at the child's development of personal care skills related to dressing, eating, and grooming.

Social Development Area

Looks at the child's development of social skills with other children and parents, including following rules, sharing, self-control, and empathy.



Please look up your child's school to find out when their screening date has been scheduled!

2009 Screening Dates, Parent Orientations, and Beginner's Days

★Call your child's school for more information!★

- Balls Creek** - Parent Orientation on 4/2 (6-7pm), Screenings on 4/9 & 4/23.
- Banoak** - Parent Orientation on 8/25, Screenings on 5/11 (4pm and 6pm).
- Blackburn** - Parent Orientation on 3/16 (6:30pm), Screenings on 3/27 (8am-4pm).
- Campbell*** - Parent Orientations on 4/28 (5:30pm), Screenings on 3/30 & 3/31 (3-4:30pm).
- Catawba** - Parent Orientations on 4/23 (6pm) & 4/25 (9am), Screenings on 6/11.
- Claremont** - Parent Orientations on 4/21 (3:30pm & 5:30pm), Screenings on 6/19.
- Jenkins** - Beginner's Day on 4/30 (3:30pm-5pm).
- Longview** - Beginner's Day on 5/9 (9am).
- Lyle Creek** - Parent Orientation on 4/20 (6:30pm), Screenings on 5/2.
- Maiden** - Parent Orientations on 5/11 & 5/12 (6pm), Screenings on 5/26 & 5/28 (3-6pm).
- Mountain View** - Parent Orientation on 5/12, Screenings on 5/12.
- Oakwood** - Beginner's Day on 5/5 (3:30pm).
- Oxford** - Parent Orientation on 6/1, Screenings on 6/4, School Tours on 6/4, 6/5, & 6/8.
- St. Stephens*** - Parent Orientation at 3/23 (6pm), Screenings on 3/28 (10am-3pm).
- Sherrills Ford** - Parent Orientations on 5/6 (8:30am & 1:30pm), Screenings on 5/13 & 5/14 (3-5:30pm), Student Tours on 5/8 (8:30am & 11am).
- Shuford** - Screening Day on 5/1.
- Snow Creek*** - Parent Orientations for Snow Creek families will be located at Clyde Campbell on 5/12 at 3:30pm & 5:30pm. Refer to previous home school district and attend their screening days. Results will be forwarded to Snow Creek.
- South Newton** - Screening Day on 5/8.
- Southwest** - Beginner's Day on 4/28 (5-6:30pm).
- Startown** - Parent Meetings on 5/7 (9am & 4pm), Screenings on 6/12.
- Sweetwater*** - Screenings on 5/5 & 5/6 (2:30-5:30pm).
- Thornton** - Screening Day on 4/30.
- Tuttle** - Parent Orientation on 3/25 (9am & 1:30pm) and Screenings on 5/5 (3-6pm) & 5/7 (3-6pm).
- Viewmont** - Beginner's Day on 4/29 (3:45pm).
- Webb A. Murray*** - Parent Orientations on 5/5 (9am, 11am, 1pm, 6pm), Screenings on 4/2 (3:30-7pm).

* - With the closing of Sweetwater Elementary and the opening of Snow Creek Elementary, there has been a process of redistricting for children in these attendance zones. If you have a question about what school your child should attend, please call 828-464-8333.

Cut here and post for future reference!