

Resources for Families with Children Entering Kindergarten

Below are some resources that Neighborhood School Readiness Project Team members might find useful as they plan activities for families with 4- and 5-year-old children to have a successful transition to kindergarten.

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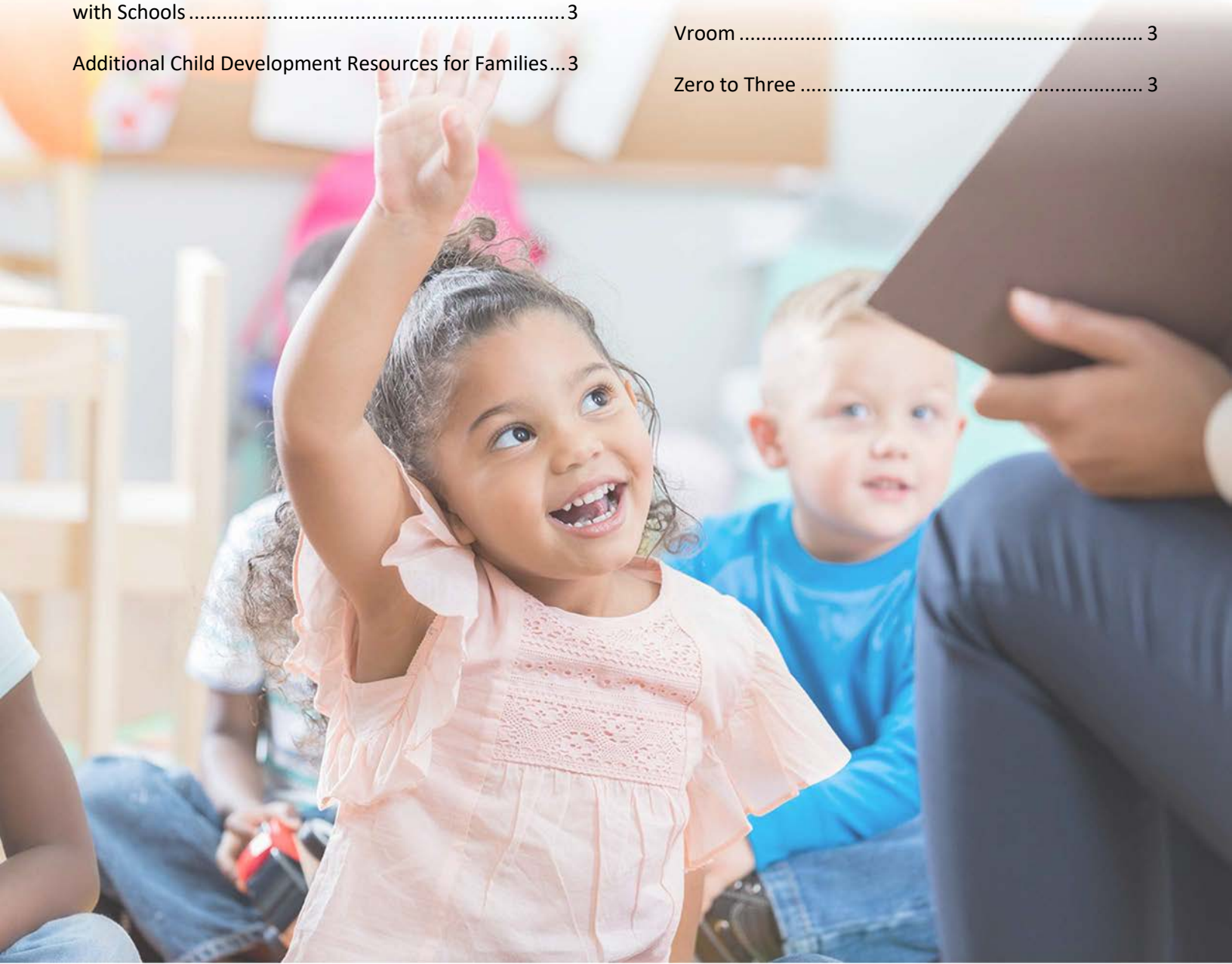
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Fairfax County Neighborhood School Readiness Project



Information from Fairfax County Public Schools About Registering for Kindergarten

Children who will be 5 years old by September 30 of a given year are eligible to enter kindergarten. By the previous March, parents of students entering kindergarten should determine the school that their child will attend and contact the school to plan for enrollment. Information on the following websites is available in multiple languages.

- The [Kindergarten registration](#) page has information to help parents to complete the 5-step process for student enrollment.
- The [Boundary \(attendance area\) locator](#) has information to help families determine a school assignment for individual addresses.
- [Fairfax County Public Schools Kindergarten](#) has information about the FCPS Kindergarten experience.
- [Fairfax County Public Schools Welcomes You to Kindergarten](#). (YouTube) 12:05. Fairfax County Public Schools. 2017.

Fairfax County



Office for Children

Resources from Fairfax County Office for Children about Entering Kindergarten

[School Readiness](#). This website has links to information about school readiness, programs, and publications (resources in multiple languages)

[A Closer Look at Kindergarten Readiness](#). (YouTube) 6:17. Fairfax County Office for Children. Annandale Neighborhood School Readiness Team. 2018.

[A Closer Look at Kindergarten Readiness](#). [Abbreviated] (YouTube) 1:01. Fairfax County Office for Children. Annandale Neighborhood School Readiness Team. 2018

[Stepping into Kindergarten: A School Readiness Guide for Parents](#). (publication). Fairfax County Office for Children. ([English](#), [Arabic](#), [Chinese](#), [Farsi](#), [Korean](#), [Spanish](#), [Urdu](#), [Vietnamese](#)). (Request copies from Neighborhood School Readiness Project facilitators)

[I Am Going to Kindergarten](#). (publication in PDF format). Fairfax County Office for Children. (English and Spanish). FCPS schools and early childhood education programs can request a copy for duplication from Neighborhood School Readiness Project facilitators to use with transition to kindergarten activities.

Kindergarten Registration or Orientation Dates for Elementary Schools in specific neighborhoods. Information is compiled annually. Flyers are available for distribution from Neighborhood School Readiness Project facilitators.

[School Age Child Care Program](#)

Fairfax County Office for Children's SACC program provides fun, safe and educational care for children in kindergarten–sixth grade before school, after school, and during school vacations in most Fairfax County public elementary schools.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the SACC program has not been available during the 2020-2021 School Year. The Supporting Return to School (SRS) program opened on September 8, 2020 to support children's active and engaged learning during the FCPS virtual academic day and to promote children's social, emotional and physical development.

Planning for full-day summer programming and Fall 2021 is currently underway.

[Child Care Assistance and Referral Program](#)

Fairfax County Office for Children's CCAR program provides information about:

- Resources and referrals for families looking for child care. Early childhood programs are located throughout the county in community-based centers and family child care homes.
- Financial assistance for child care to families who are eligible in Fairfax County and the City of Fairfax.

Additional Strategies for Families to Connect with Fairfax County Public Schools

- Families can “friend” the Facebook page of the school where the child will be attending. They can also follow the school on Twitter.
- Families can register to receive **Fairfax County Public Schools: News You Choose**. This newsletter provides regular updates from the schools. To subscribe, visit [Subscriber Preferences Page](#) and provide an email address. Select TOPIC. Select ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS. Select a school.
- Families can contact their local elementary school to find the dates for any kindergarten registration and kindergarten orientation events.
- Families can contact local early childhood education programs to see if a “Transition to Kindergarten” event is planned for families and school leaders and kindergarten teachers.
- Families can sign an exchange of information form to allow their early childhood program to share information with the FCPS elementary school where their child will attend.

Additional Child Development Resources for Families

Fairfax County Office for Children

- Helping Your Child Love to Learn**. Fairfax Futures. 2013. ([English](#), [Arabic](#), [Chinese](#), [Farsi](#), [Korean](#), [Spanish](#), [Vietnamese](#)). (Request copies from your Neighborhood School Readiness Team facilitator.)
- The **Office for Children** website has links to Fairfax County Office for Children resources for families with children from birth through school age.
- Child Care Search** is an online search tool that lets families search for child care by early childhood program name, nearby elementary school, language spoken in the early childhood program, special services, and more.

Fairfax County Public Schools

School success ideas for families

- Helping Children Learn Newsletter** (English and Spanish)
- Daily Learning Planner** (English and Spanish)
- Parent Advocacy Handbook: Getting Ready for Kindergarten**
- Early Childhood Education**. This website has links to information about [FCPS PreK and Early Head Start](#) and about [Child Find](#), a program that identifies children with special education needs.

Fairfax County Public Library

- Early Literacy** (website). This website has links to multiple resources and activities related to supporting children’s early literacy before they enter kindergarten.
- 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten** (app). Fairfax County Public Library participates in the 1,000 Books before Kindergarten program that encourages adults to read with young children.
- Centers for Disease Control**
 - CDC’s Developmental Milestones** ([English](#)), ([Spanish](#))
 - Milestone checklists**. (PDF), 20 Pages ([English](#) and [Spanish](#))
 - Milestone Tracker**. mobile app ([English](#) and [Spanish](#))
 - Milestones in Action**. photo and video library ([English](#) and [Spanish](#))
 - Free Materials** (bulk ordering, available in multiple languages)

Vroom

Free app with daily science-based tips and tools help parents and caregivers ([English](#)), ([Spanish](#))

Zero to Three

Resources for Parents offers free information and tools to support parents in developing their own ways to promote their children’s growth and development.