

Allen Park Public Schools

Young Fives Program

Young Fives or Kindergarten?

Children enter kindergarten with a range of skills, including physical, cognitive, social, and emotional. Often, children who turn five years of age later than their peers will have a significantly different level of development than a child approaching their sixth birthday. For this reason, we offer a Young 5's Program.



The program is designed for students who have a summer or fall birthdate. The focus of the program is to provide eligible children another year to learn and grow, helping to prevent them from experiencing the frustration of the high demands of kindergarten when they are not ready.

This program does not replace preschool or kindergarten; rather, our Young Fives Program offers an additional year as a gift of time. Enrollment in the Young Fives Program is a decision made in collaboration between parents, teachers, and administrators that begins with a screening process.

Students enrolled in the Young Fives Program have the opportunity to participate in a wide variety of activities designed to bridge the gap between preschool and kindergarten. Students engage in activities that teach thinking, reasoning, and decision-making skills. They also develop their listening, social/emotional, and literacy skills.



The Program allows children to use a hands on approach to learning. The curriculum is similar to kindergarten but moves at a slower more manageable pace. This program provides a strong foundation that helps children become more successful students and ignites a love for learning that lasts a lifetime.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Is the Young Fives Program full day?

A: Yes, the children start and end school with all other K-5 students.

Q: Where will my child go after completing the Young Fives Program?

A: Your child will advance to kindergarten.

Q: Do students in the Young Fives program attend gym, art, music, media and technology?

A: Young Five students attend these classes as well as lunch with our Kindergarten students.

Q: How many students are in the Young Fives Program.

A: Enrollment is limited to 15 children in the Young Fives Program.

Who is a Great Candidate for Young Fives?

The Young Five Program is intended to be a bridge between preschool and kindergarten

Ideal candidates include children who:

- Turn 5 years old between July 1st and December 1st.
- Live in the Allen Park Public Schools district
- Have a basic understanding of academic concepts
 - Able to identify several letters, letter sounds, shapes, and colors.
- Could benefit from an extra year of social and emotional growth.
- Have made significant progress in preschool, but are not yet ready for the demands of Kindergarten.
- Have attended preschool (not a mandatory requirement, but strongly encouraged)

Young Fives Informational Meeting

March 21, 2017 from 6:30-7:30 PM at:

Allen Park High School-LGI Room
18401 Champaign Rd
Allen Park, MI 48101

Young Fives Screening Sessions

March 28-29, 2017 at:

Lindemann Elementary
9201 Carter Ave
Allen Park, MI 48101

Sign up for a time slot by visiting:

<http://tinyurl.com/AllenParkYoungFives>

"I was on the fence about Young 5's prior to starting. On the one hand, I was worried it wouldn't be challenging enough. On the other, I was worried that my daughter was not mature enough for Kindergarten. I was wrong about the program not challenging the students. It's structured and really allows the children to slowly develop as readers and writers. I'm so happy with my choice because I believe I gave my daughter a smoother transition into Kindergarten. She will enter as a reader and writer."

- 2015-2016 Young Five parent

