



## What is Developmental Kindergarten?

Developmental Kindergarten (DK) offers children who are currently four years old and turn age five between September 1st and December 1<sup>st</sup>, the chance to develop school readiness skills. For these young learners, it allows them to mature and develop academically at a more manageable pace before entering Kindergarten. Developmental Kindergarten bridges the gaps between Pre-K and kindergarten to help ensure that children are developmentally ready across all domains and not just the traditional school readiness skills.

This means that there is an intentional focus on social and emotional development and giving children the opportunity to develop organically through play and exploration. It has more project-based learning and opportunities for children to explore topics of particular interest.

## What Are the Benefits of Developmental Kindergarten?

Developmental Kindergarten (DK), followed by a year of Kindergarten, gives children the opportunity to develop and learn over a longer range of time.

DK offers children a chance to:

- Develop socially and emotionally while building academic skills
- Develop independence and self-regulation skills alongside academic skills
- Interact with the curriculum and build skills at a slower pace
- Become confident communicators and build vital social skills
- Gain the skills needed for starting Kindergarten the following year