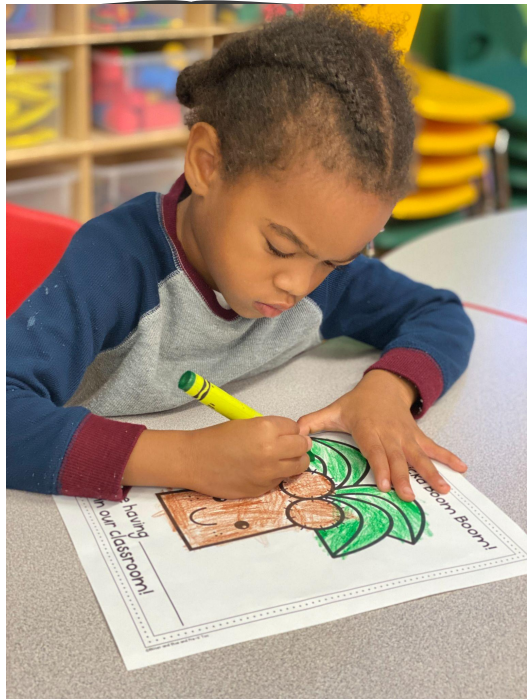




Universal Pre-Kindergarten

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What is Universal Pre-K?

- Universal Pre-K (UPK) is a free educational program for 4 year olds made possible through various state and federal grants
 - 6 hours of instruction
 - Breakfast & lunch included
 - Follows PCSD calendar
 - High quality instruction on foundational literacy, numeracy, and language skills

Why is Pre-K Important?



Early childhood education paves the way for learning at school and throughout life. What children learn in their first few years of life - and how they learn it - can have long-lasting effects on their success and health as children, teens, and adults.



Students who attend high-quality Pre-K Programs ...



- Are more likely to graduate high school
- Have longer attention spans and overall better retention of information
- Are less likely to get involved in crime in later years
- Have stronger emotional and social intelligences
- Are less likely to be referred for Academic Intervention Services or special education services
- Generally earn better grades in school
- Have a higher likelihood of attending college or university





Measures of Development

- Social/Emotional Development
- Physical Development
- Cognitive Development
- Language Development



Approaches to Learning



Foundational Literacy Skills

- Alphabet
- Print concepts
- Phonological awareness
- High-frequency words
- fluency



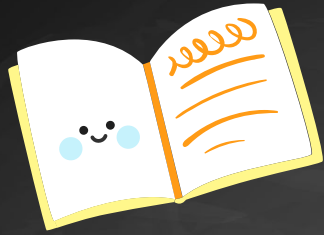


Approaches to Learning

Learning & Developing through Exploration, Inquiry, & Play

- Attempts multiple ways to solve a problem
- Communicates more than one solution to a problem
- Engages with peers and adults to solve problems





Kindergarten Readiness

The UPK program develops a child's readiness skills to encourage a smooth transition into Kindergarten.



THE CURRICULUM

- Letter and sound recognition
- Language and Listening Skills
- STEAM skills
- Social/Emotional skills
- Development of fine/gross motor skills



UPK Sample Schedule

Each block includes: Teacher-led Learning + Child-led learning + Reflection

Language Block

Morning Meeting

Language Block:

- Whole Group: Circle & Story Time
- Small Group & Independent Centers

Outside/Recreation

Math Block:

- Whole Group: Circle & Story
- Small Group & Independent Centers

STEAM Lab or Block Room

Lunch/Discussion

Rest/Song/Art/Choice

Literacy Block:

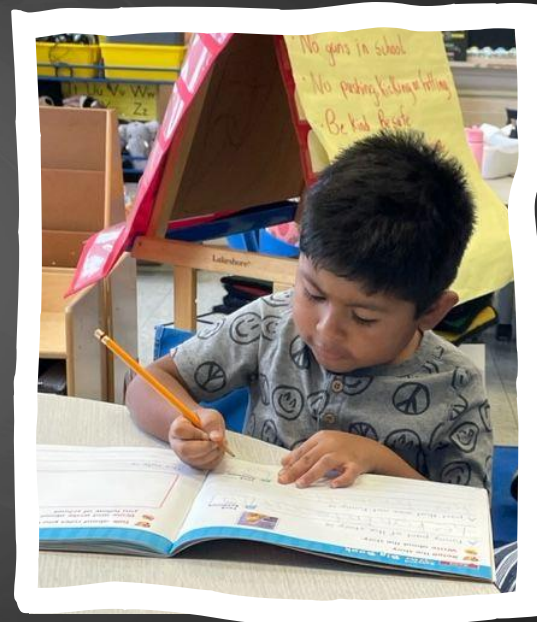
- Whole Group: Circle & Story
- Small Group & Independent Centers
- Shared Writing

Afternoon Meeting/Reflection

Cleanup & Dismissal

Math Block

Literacy Block

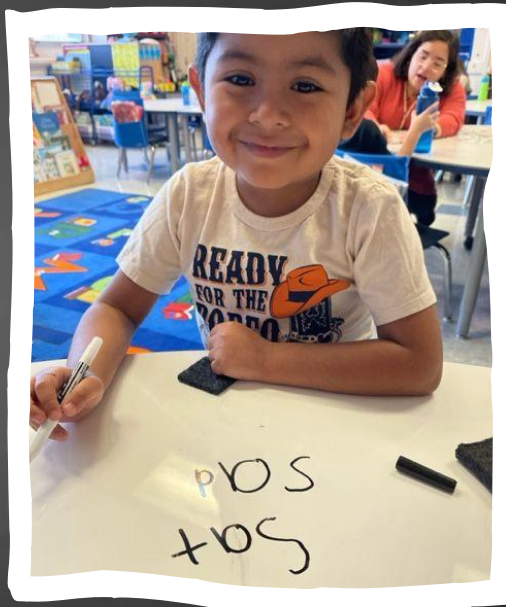


Dual Language

A Dual Language program is a two way bilingual immersion program in which there is a balance of native English speakers and native speakers of the partner language (Spanish).

At the ELC, the Dual Language program has:

- 50-50 balance of English and Spanish speaking students
- 1 English-language teacher
- 1 Spanish-language teacher
- Students learning academic content in both English and Spanish
- Family events in English and Spanish



Goals of Dual Language Program

Bilingualism

Oral proficiency in two languages: English and Spanish

Global Citizenship

Increased global awareness, empathy, and appreciation for other cultures



Biliteracy

Reading & Writing proficiency in two languages: English and Spanish

Academic Success

Gains in student engagement, critical thinking, mental flexibility, and academic performance.





Our Partners

Smith Early Learning Center

The ELC serves approximately 300 little pioneers in kindergarten and Pre-K in a print-rich, caring, and welcoming environment.

Dual Language

Students in the Dual Language Program at the ELC develop biliteracy skills in English and Spanish.

Holy Trinity Annex

The Annex is a PreK-2 building focusing on early childhood development.

Day One

Located at the Reformed Church of Poughkeepsie, Day One offers play-based programs for 3 and 4 year olds.

North Star Academy

Run by the Boys & Girls Club of Poughkeepsie, North Star Academy mirrors the curriculum and programming offered at ELC.

Astor Early Childhood

Astor's goal is to provide a comprehensive child development program for preschool-aged children. The program is individualized to assist each child's development socially, emotionally, intellectually, and physically.