

Prekindergarten News

Rochester City
 School District



*Message from the Executive
 Director, Dr. Robin Hooper*

We Begin our Year in Prekindergarten with Reading, Reading and more Reading!

Welcome Prekindergarten students and families! We are starting our school year with the "Read 1,000 Books before Kindergarten" Campaign. Each of our prekindergarten classrooms has a lending library for parents and students to borrow books to read at home. Please take advantage of this opportunity to read with your child or have a grandparent, aunt/uncle or older child read with them. We have provided reading logs for you to record the books you have read with your child and also books your child has "read" on their own.

Children who have books read to them learn to read sooner and more easily than children who do not have this opportunity. When you read a book with your child discuss who the author is and what it means to be an author (the person who wrote the book) and the illustrator (the person who drew the pictures). In many children's books the author and the illustrator may be the same person. Point out words in the book as you read it. Children begin to recognize words they see over and over again.

Your child may ask you to read the same book over and over. This is fine. You can count each time you read the book toward the goal of reading 1,000 books. When you read a book many times your child may be able to memorize the book and recall the story by looking at the pictures. This recalling of the story is a first step toward reading. Encourage your child to tell you what happened in the story. Talk about the characters and their names when you discuss the story. Ask them what part of the story they liked the best and which characters they liked best.

Take a trip to the library to read books. This is a free activity for an afternoon or during a weekend that you can enjoy with your child. The librarians can help you find books for your preschooler. The library often has story hours and activities for children. Ask the librarian if there are any upcoming events. Reading books with your child is the most important thing a parent can do to support their child in learning to read. I am excited about the year ahead and all of the books our preschool students and families will be reading!



What's in the Daily Routine?

All UPK classrooms have a consistent daily routine that is posted where children can view and interact with it. Engaging with this posted routine provides daily experiences that foster the development of reading skills. This includes picture reading, sequencing events, and prediction.

Reading Initiative for UPK

Reading is the foundation for learning and it begins in the home at birth. It takes both the family and the schools working together to prepare our children for Kindergarten. This year we challenge each family to accomplish the goal of reading **1000 books**.



This year we are launching our “Read 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten” initiative by providing each prekindergarten student with a backpack and five books to begin their home library.

Did you know that experts say children need to hear at least 1,000 stories before they begin to learn how to read?



PreK Lending Library Excites an Entire Family to Read

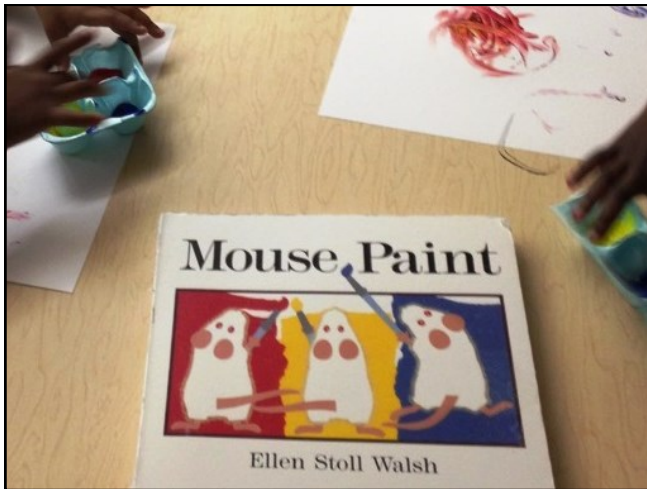
Submitted by Patricia Pitts of School 52



“A student in my PreK class at School 52 is excited about reading 1000 books before Kindergarten.”

Silas is keeping track of books read to him by coloring in a circle on a sheet we provided. His two older sisters (7 and 9) became interested in what he was doing and asked if they could read 1000 books too. There are now 3 sheets of circles on the refrigerator and everyone is reading as much as they can. One of his siblings who didn't really like to read or would read easy books, has now started reading chapter books. Needless to say the parents are pleased!! The entire family is participating in the reading initiative.

Reading Throughout the Day



Small Group Time



Large Group Time

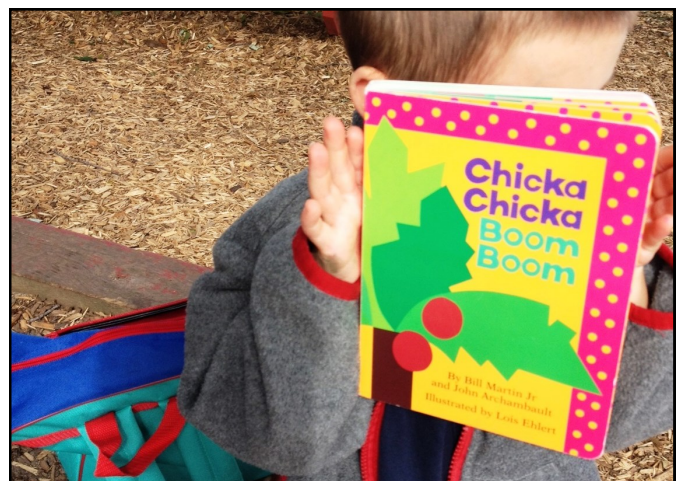
“Fill your house with stacks of books, in all the crannies and all the nooks.” Dr. Suess



Rest Time



Work Time



Outside Time

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Every child is a work of art.
Create a masterpiece.

Our Vision

Prekindergarten Programs empower young children to successfully contribute to their families, school, community and environment.

Our Mission

Prekindergarten Programs provide opportunities for young children to participate in challenging, stimulating programs, designed to support their language, cognitive, and social development while being sensitive to their strengths and needs.

Visit our website at
www.rcsdk12.org/PreK

Home-School Connection



Daily Sign-in



We are excited to now offer many full day classes in addition to some half day programs. Children are having many new experiences as they participate in a structured daily routine. Signing in each morning is one part of that new routine. Each child has a picture attached to their name called a "Letter Link." The picture is associated with the initial sound in each child's name. Teachers are using these in many ways to foster name and sound recognition. Daily communication with your child's classroom will keep you informed, and provide answers to any questions you may have about what your child is learning.



Parent Communication

