



CRESTWOOD

A C A D E M Y

Kindergarten Program Overview

2026-2027



Our Educational Approach

At Crestwood Academy, our Kindergarten program is intentionally designed to bridge the gap between early childhood learning and structured academic instruction.

We recognize that Kindergarten is a pivotal year. Students are transitioning from foundational exploration into more focused learning, and it is essential that this transition is handled with both structure and care.

Our program provides a calm, consistent, and engaging environment where students are guided through academic development while continuing to build confidence, independence, and a love for learning.

Within our program, students experience:

- A structured and predictable classroom environment
- A balanced approach to academic instruction and hands-on learning
- Individualized support based on readiness and pace

- Gradual increase in academic expectations
- Continued emphasis on confidence, curiosity, and engagement

At Crestwood Academy, students are supported in becoming capable learners while still being nurtured as individuals.

Small Class Structure & Individualized Attention

Crestwood Academy maintains intentionally small class sizes to ensure each child receives meaningful support during this important developmental stage.

In Kindergarten, students benefit greatly from individualized instruction, as academic readiness and developmental pace can vary widely.

Our teachers are able to closely monitor progress, provide targeted support, and challenge students appropriately without overwhelming them.

Within our classrooms, students benefit from:

- Small class sizes (typically 5–8 students)
- Individualized attention and guidance
- Immediate support when challenges arise
- Instruction tailored to each student's readiness level
- Strong relationships with teachers and peers

Every student is supported, encouraged, and guided toward success.

Academic Development

The Kindergarten academic program at Crestwood Academy introduces structured learning while continuing to build strong foundational skills.

Students begin transitioning into more focused instruction, while still benefiting from interactive and engaging learning experiences.

We emphasize understanding, repetition, and confidence as students begin to take on more academic responsibility.

Students are guided in developing:

- Letter recognition, phonics, and early reading skills
- Beginning reading fluency and comprehension

- Writing skills, including sentence formation and handwriting
- Number recognition, counting, and early math operations
- Introduction to addition and basic problem-solving
- Foundational science and observation skills
- Early social studies concepts through real-world connections

Students build the skills and confidence needed to enter Grade 1 prepared and capable.

Reading & Early Literacy

Reading development is a major focus in Kindergarten, as it lays the foundation for all future academic success.

Students are supported as they transition from recognizing letters and sounds to beginning to read words and simple texts independently.

We create a literacy-rich environment that encourages both skill development and a genuine enjoyment of reading.

Within our literacy program, students:

- Practice phonics and sound recognition daily
- Begin blending sounds to read simple words
- Participate in guided reading activities
- Develop comprehension through discussion and storytelling
- Practice early writing through sentences and journaling
- Build vocabulary through conversation and reading

Students begin to see themselves as readers, not just learners.

Whole Child Development (Social & Emotional Learning)

Kindergarten is a critical time for developing social and emotional skills that support both learning and personal growth.

At Crestwood Academy, these skills are intentionally incorporated into daily routines and classroom interactions.

Students are guided in understanding their emotions, building confidence, and

developing positive relationships with others.

Students are supported in developing:

- Emotional awareness and self-regulation
- Confidence in group and classroom settings
- Positive communication and social interaction
- Problem-solving and conflict resolution
- Respect for peers, teachers, and classroom expectations

Students grow not only academically, but as confident and capable individuals.

Life Skills & Independence

At Crestwood Academy, we continue to build independence by introducing practical life skills that help students take responsibility for themselves and their environment.

Kindergarten students are encouraged to take a more active role in daily routines and responsibilities, both at school and at home.

These skills are taught consistently and reinforced through daily expectations.

Students are guided to:

- Maintain and organize their personal workspace
- Clean up materials and shared areas
- Follow multi-step directions
- Take responsibility for belongings
- Assist with simple classroom tasks
- Support basic responsibilities at home
- Develop independence in daily routines

Students begin to see themselves as capable, responsible contributors.

Hands-On Learning, Exploration & Outdoor Experiences

Learning at Crestwood Academy remains active and engaging through hands-on experiences and exploration.

Kindergarten students continue to benefit from interactive learning opportunities that reinforce academic concepts while keeping students engaged.

Outdoor experiences and real-world learning remain an important part of the program.

Students participate in:

- Hands-on learning activities and projects
- Outdoor exploration and movement
- Gardening and nature-based learning
- Creative expression through art and building
- Guided activities that connect learning to real life

Learning is reinforced through experience, not just instruction.

Daily Structure & Routine

A consistent and structured daily routine helps Kindergarten students transition into more focused learning while maintaining a sense of comfort and predictability.

Our schedule is designed to balance academic instruction, movement, and emotional support throughout the day.

Students gradually build stamina for longer periods of focused learning.

A typical day includes:

- Morning routine and structured start to the day
- Academic instruction blocks (reading, writing, math)
- Hands-on learning and guided activities
- Small group and individualized instruction
- Outdoor play and movement
- Reflection and calming/reset time
- Structured transitions between activities

Students thrive in an environment where expectations are clear and routines are consistent.

End-of-Year Outcomes

By the end of Kindergarten, students at Crestwood Academy are expected to demonstrate strong growth in both academic skills and independence.

Our goal is to ensure each student is fully prepared for the expectations of Grade 1 while maintaining confidence and enthusiasm for learning.

Students will leave Kindergarten with:

- Foundational reading skills and early fluency
- Beginning writing and sentence formation abilities
- Strong number sense and early math skills
- Ability to follow routines and classroom expectations
- Increased independence and responsibility
- Improved social and emotional skills
- Confidence in their ability to learn and participate

Students are not just prepared for the next grade - they are confident, capable, and ready to succeed.