



The kindergarten teachers would like to say... **Welcome to Selwyn!**

Beginning kindergarten is such an exciting time for children and parents. Here are some of our suggestions that will begin to prepare your student for a successful year.

***Look for opportunities to use “environmental” reading and writing.**

When you visit a restaurant, discuss and point to items on the menu. Talk about words on cereal boxes, store signs, DVD boxes and more. Include your child when you read recipes, directions or magazines. Write lists, notes and signs together.

***Begin to use letter sounds and rhyming sounds in family activities.**

Examples: What animal begins with the “d” sound? Tell me as many words as you can that rhyme with “cat.”

***Include family reading (story time) in your schedule every day.**

Discuss stories as you read and relate them to personal experiences. The time you spend reading during family reading time this summer can be counted toward your Red Ribbon Reading goal.

***As with reading, look for “environmental” math opportunities.**

Include your child as you use math in family life. “I need 6 forks on the table for dinner. Can you count them for me?” “We have 4 people in our family. How many socks will we need?” You can write the numbers down and draw illustrations as you discuss each situation.

***Look for interesting places to visit.**

Some local suggestions are the Nature Museum, Discovery Place, local parks, Latta Plantation, ImaginOn, your public library branch, pet stores, Selwyn’s Nature Trail, farmers’ markets, art shops, and museums. As you visit, talk about new vocabulary words, “read” informational signs, find books about the topic and use the internet for additional information. Draw pictures and keep a journal of your experiences.

***Always talk about beginning school with enthusiasm and confidence.**

Our Selwyn staff members have a great deal of experience in helping children (and parents!) transition into this exciting adventure. We will be glad to help you with any questions or concerns that you might have.