

# The Presidio School

## Advanced Placement Kindergarten Program

A great deal of learning takes place during the first few years of a child's life. In fact a child learns faster during these years than any other time of life. In the very early years, most of this learning occurs through playing. Once a child enters kindergarten, there is a transition to more structured and intentional learning. However, the natural curiosity and desire to learn is still at an amazingly high level.

Our Kindergarten program takes advantage of this prime time by providing numerous and varied opportunities for each child's physical, intellectual, social and emotional growth. The program is designed to develop a positive attitude towards life and school. No two children are alike and not all children learn in the same way or at the same rate. It is important to make sure that your child spends the time needed (at home and at school) to master the AP Kindergarten standards.

**Prior to enrollment, every child will be assessed on the kindergarten readiness skills listed below. Please note that while some children may not be able to complete all of these skills, most should be mastered to ensure a successful school year. Please provide your child with the opportunity to learn the readiness skills either through pre-school or at home.**

- Identify the letters of the alphabet in upper case and attempt lower case.
- Sing the Alphabet Song.
- Sequence the alphabet using the Alphabet Song.
- Be able to write at least three randomly selected letters.
- Count, identify and write numbers from 1-10.
- Identify and sort basic colors and shapes.
- Use pencil and crayons
- Identify and write age
- Write his or her first name; attempt to write last name
- Listen politely to speaker; ask questions politely
- Demonstrate social and behavioral maturity needed for school attendance.



➤ **Presidio will accept four-year old children who turn five by January 1<sup>st</sup> of the current school year as long as they are able to demonstrate mastery of all of the kindergarten readiness skills.**

# How Can I Help My Child At Home?

## In addition to teaching your child the kindergarten readiness skills

### Teach your child to:

- Know and say his or her first and last name.
- Care for toilet needs.
- Put on and take off clothing.
- Zip, tie, snap and button clothing. Practice with clothes to be worn to school.
- Proper use and disposal of tissue.
- Cover mouth and nose when coughing and/or sneezing-with the elbow, not the hand.
- Drink from water fountains without touching the fountain with his/her mouth.
- Use proper manners- please, thank you, and you're welcome.
- Develop a quality vocabulary (read to your child daily)

### Encourage your child to (and explain why):

- Put away toys and other possessions.
- Take turns.
- Listen while others are talking.
- Express him/herself verbally.
- Do things independently.
- Share items with others.



### Help your child by (and continue throughout the year):

- Providing a nutritious breakfast either before school or through the school food program.
- Giving small responsibilities at home.
- Having your child practice following directions.
- Learning to play with other children.
- Being selective and limit screen time. Play fun board games instead
- Reading to your child 20 minutes each day.
- Asking about school and inspect the Presidio Communication Folder daily.
- Giving your child opportunities to use crayons, pencils, scissors, and glue as well as the chance to count and sort items in the home.
- Providing a place to display his/her work such as a refrigerator or bulletin board.
- Encouraging a regular bed time that provides for 10 to 12 hours of sleep.
- Exposing your child to questions using who, what, when, where, why and how.



### Start the school year out right by:

- Meeting your child's teacher and exploring the classroom prior to the first day of school by attending the Presidio School Meet & Greet.
- Developing a habit of having your child arrive to school on time each day ready to learn.

### Writing:

When teaching your child to print his/her name, encourage the use of upper and lower case letters, and to write the letters starting at the top and then move down.

