



SIMSBUURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Kindergarten Guiding Beliefs

The Simsbury Public Schools' full-day Kindergarten program will establish a strong foundation for learning in the early years in a safe and caring environment that promotes not only the cognitive and academic development of all children, but also their physical, social and emotional development.

Developmental and Social Behaviors

- Kindergartners learn best when their physical and emotional needs are met and they feel safe and secure.
- Kindergartners develop at varying rates and development may be uneven within different areas from child to child.

Choice and Exploration

- Kindergartners learn in a social context and construct their own knowledge to gain an understanding of the world around them.
- Kindergartners learn best through active, hands-on interactions, and express what they know in different ways.
- Kindergartners learn in an environment that is well planned and includes a rich variety of materials, choices, and opportunities.

Constructing Knowledge

- Kindergartners use play as a way to develop creativity, critical thinking, and problem solving.
- Kindergartners need time to build strong foundational academic skills through a balance of direct instruction and hands-on learning experiences.
- Kindergartners need opportunities to practice newly acquired skills and to experience challenges just beyond their present level of mastery.