



# FULL-DAY KINDERGARTEN FOR FOUR- AND FIVE-YEAR-OLDS: time to learn, grow and play



Starting in September 2010, the government will begin phasing in full-day kindergarten for four- and five-year-olds. In the first year, nearly 600 schools will offer full-day kindergarten for up to 35,000 students five days a week. In the second year, over 200 additional schools will offer full-day kindergarten.

A complete list of the selected schools for 2010-11 and 2012 is available at [ontario.ca/earlylearning](http://ontario.ca/earlylearning)

Full-day kindergarten will be expanded each year, and the goal is to have it available in every school by 2015-16.

Here's what you can expect.

## Enhanced learning during the school day

- Teachers and early childhood educators will work together in the classroom to help young students learn and grow. This team approach will bring out the best in your child through activities and play, guided by a new full-day kindergarten program.

## Before- and after-school programs

- During the school year, schools will offer an integrated before- and after-school program led by early childhood educators. The program will be optional and available for a reasonable fee. Subsidies will be available for some families, based on financial need.
- Where there is enough demand from parents and the board has the capacity, some school boards may extend these programs to other times of the year, including summertime and March break. They may also make them available to children from six to 12 years old.

## A stronger foundation for learning

- Research shows that early learning has long-term benefits for your child's academic and social skills. A full day of learning early in life can help improve your child's reading, writing and math skills later on. It also makes the transition to Grade 1 easier – for you and your child.

## How schools were selected

- School boards worked with other local boards and municipalities to recommend schools that would be ready to offer full-day kindergarten in September 2010 and 2011.
- For September 2011, school boards were asked to recommend schools in communities that did *not* have a phase-one school.
- Boards were asked to prioritize schools that had space available or that required minimal renovations, and also identify some schools that could benefit from targeted government funding to build or renovate classrooms.

## Good for kids, good for parents, good for Ontario

- Full-day kindergarten across the province is an investment in our future. It's part of the government's plan to give our kids the tools they need to succeed and help us build a stronger Ontario.



### Learn more

For more information, please visit [ontario.ca/earlylearning](http://ontario.ca/earlylearning) or call:

- ▶ toll-free in Ontario, 1-800-387-5514
- ▶ from Toronto and from outside Ontario, (416) 325-2929
- ▶ TDD/TTY: 1-800-263-2892