

TO OUR FAMILIES OF KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS,

Every child that enters kindergarten comes to school with different interests, skills, strengths, and needs. We want to learn as much as possible about your child in order to guide learning experiences that are appropriate.

One of the ways this is accomplished is using the Delaware Early Learner Survey. This is an authentic, observation-based survey that gathers information about your child's development and learning.

During the first 30 school days, your child will be observed in six areas of development. There are 34 objectives within these developmental areas that describe the skills children demonstrate at their age-level.

The information gathered through these observations will generate skill levels that informs us of your child's entry into kindergarten and will be used to inform best instructional practices to meet your child's educational needs.

Thank you for your partnership!



ABOUT THE DELAWARE EARLY LEARNER SURVEY

WHAT ARE THE SIX DEVELOPMENTAL AREAS OBSERVED?

1. **Social-Emotional:** Learning how we feel about ourselves and how we get along with others.
2. **Physical:** Practicing well-being and motor development.
3. **Language:** Communication and understanding thoughts and feelings through listening, using sounds (talking), hand signals, and writing.
4. **Cognitive:** The skills we use to think, understand, and learn.
5. **Literacy;** Learning how to read and write.
6. **Mathematics:** The study of numbers, shapes, quantity, and measurement.

WHAT IS AN AUTHENTIC, OBSERVATION-BASED SURVEY?

- Authentic observation means that we observe your child during the regular, everyday learning activities during the school day.
- We document what we see and hear.
- We take notes, collect writing and other work samples, and may use photos or video clips.
- We use the information collected to understand your child's progress to develop new learning experiences.