



Ann Arbor Public Schools



Young Fives

Kindergarten



■ Social and Emotional Development

The Young Fives kindergarten program is dedicated to the social and emotional development of our young students. Through intentional design, teachers encourage work habits for success beyond kindergarten. Within the structure of a supportive and caring environment, children learn to interact positively with peers and to self-advocate in effective ways:

Areas of focus

- Self-control
- Seeking help when needed
- Cleaning up after work/play
- Sharing with others
- Taking turns when appropriate
- Following classroom routines and rules
- Completing tasks
- Exhibiting focus
- Making appropriate choices
- Playing and negotiating together
- Making healthy choices



*Young Fives classroom
at Lakewood Elementary*

Mastering these life skills makes for a positive learning experience and allows children to navigate the school environment with ease. Our skilled and experienced teachers understand that each child is unique with special gifts and talents. We take great care in helping our students see themselves as capable, contributing members of a community.

The Ann Arbor Public Schools Young Fives kindergarten program curriculum aligns with state standards with dedicated time to build foundational skills through developmentally-designed activities and projects.

■ Academic Foundations

Reading and Language Development

Students are taught to identify letters, recognize familiar print such as their names and signs, recognize rhyming words, read books, and listen with interest to a variety of stories. They also develop strong communication skills, the ability to discuss a story, and to retell a familiar story in sequence. Our classrooms are language-rich learning environments.

Writing

Students will learn to write their names, form letters, hold pencils and crayons correctly, and draw and write to tell stories.

Math

Students will explore basic shapes and patterns as well as sort objects by color, size, and shape. They will learn to recognize and write numbers, practice counting, build number stories, and read picture graphs.

Science

The Young Fives science curriculum is all about observing the world around us. Students will participate in hands-on activities through Exploration of Matter & Measurement, Color & Light, Neighborhood Habitats, Seasons, and Movement & Machines.



The Young Fives kindergarten program integrates arts, language, and kinesthetics through hands-on learning.

■ Essential Disciplinary Learning

The Young Fives student will receive weekly instruction in music, physical education, and the media center. Students will learn through creative movement, composition, theater, motor skill development and technology embedded throughout Essential Disciplinary Learning.

Appropriate developmental skills such as cutting with scissors, drawing, shapes, patterns, singing, rhythm, movement motor skills, jumping, hopping, skipping, and computer literacy, are developed and reinforced across these hands-on engaging lessons and activities.



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▲ Locations

A2 STEAM

Abbot

Allen

Angell

Ann Arbor Open

Bach

Bryant

Burns Park

Carpenter

Dicken

Eberwhite

Haisley

King

Lakewood

Lawton

Logan

Mitchell

Pittsfield

Thurston

Wines

▲ Eligibility

Students must turn five between May 1st and December 1st of the school year.

Families may apply to enroll in the Young Fives kindergarten program through the District's online enrollment system at a2schools.org/enroll.

▲ How to Enroll

To enroll through the District's online application, please visit our website at a2schools.org/enroll, or contact the Elementary Education Office at 734-994-2252.

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Specifically designed for younger kindergarten students, the Young Fives kindergarten program provides students a stimulating, rich learning environment, with focus on early literacy, math, and social skill building. Our Young Fives students leave the program as leaders; seeing themselves as capable, creative, successful learners. Children attending the Young Fives program enter kindergarten ready, often advanced and poised for future success throughout their educational careers.

