

K I N D E R G A R T E N



**CEDAR
GROVE**
SCHOOL

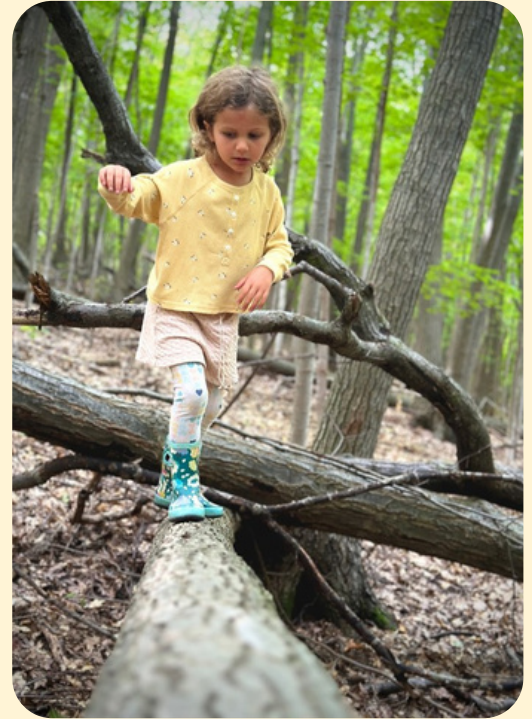
Our Kindergarten Program

THE DAILY RHYTHM

At **Cedar Grove School**, we strive to cultivate a warm and joyful atmosphere in our **Kindergarten Program!**

Our daily rhythm begins outside. Stumps and wooden boards become houses, trains, boats, and obstacle courses while other children play chase or seasonal games, such as raking leaves and making nests in the piles. During this time, the children are welcome to freely contribute to meaningful outdoor activities like stacking wood, digging and moving wheelbarrows of dirt, sand, or stone, and tending gardens.

In warmer weather, **a simple snack is enjoyed beneath our light-filled covered porch.** In cooler weather, snack-time is enjoyed in our **Kindergarten Classroom.**



Our Classroom is filled with rich, therapeutic colours and a large play area, **where children are invited to enter into imaginative play using natural materials** like shells, nuts, wool, coloured cloths, and wooden pieces of all shapes and sizes. Children may use wooden stands to create playhouses for dolls, walls or dividers for castles or stables, or general stores - the options are endless!

Once children have comfortably transitioned indoors, Storytime begins. **During Storytime, children's imaginations are nourished by an oral story told by the teacher.** Classic fairy and folk tales and nature stories connect children with the natural environment, seasons of the year, and festivals of the year.



Our Kindergarten Program

STORYTIME AND LUNCH

Children's ability to hear language sounds and to create inner pictures is an important foundational literacy skill nurtured in our Kindergarten. Once the children have heard a story repeated, they experience it as a **puppet play** or by helping to 'pretend' the tale.

Songs, verses, poems, and finger games brought by the teacher allow the children to connect with the sounds and rhythms of their language.



The table is then carefully set with placemats and lunch pails. The children sing a beautiful song of thanks for their food, a candle is lit, and **lunches are enjoyed in the peaceful golden light of the candle's glow.**

“Candle bright, candle sprite,
thank you for your golden light!”



Our Kindergarten Program

AFTERNOON ACTIVITIES

A **well-timed rest at midday** follows lunch and for the digestion of morning learning and support for a good night's sleep. Afterwards, the children engage in a variety of indoor activities. These **activities centre around the kitchen** where children help with cleaning and cutting vegetables and fruit, kneading and baking bread, and cleaning tables and chairs.

Other activities include **wet-on-wet watercolour painting, drawing with beeswax crayons, paper crafting, sewing, beeswax sculpting, and free play.**



Watercolour Painting



Paper Crafting



Play Dough made from Natural Plant Dyes



Beeswax Sculpting

The afternoon concludes with a simple snack, closing verse, and outdoor play.

Children are picked up **between 3:15 and 3:30 pm.**

Our Kindergarten Teachers

WORTHY OF IMITATION

Our **Kindergarten Teachers** teach by imitation, honouring that most of what children learn at this stage is imparted by example. They recognize that at this age, the child expresses themselves through an abundance of willful energy and activity. Bodily development is the focus, and the greatest task of parents and educators is to ensure that the body is nourished in a healthy way.



Our Program Aims to Provide:

- A **smooth transition** from home to school, where teachers work closely with parents to achieve this end.
- **Smaller class sizes**, creating excellent student to teacher ratios.
- Rhythmic daily, weekly, and monthly activities offered at a varied pace to allow for **balanced periods of activity and rest**.
- A **caring and respectful environment** honouring inclusivity in daily social activities and interactions.
- Moments of reverence each day, where children are given opportunities to **experience joy, awe, and wonder in nature**.
- An integrated learning experience where children are encouraged to learn through **investigation, exploration, and discovery**.
- A **strong foundation** for literacy and numeracy.