

# SO YOUR CHILD IS IN \_\_\_\_\_ KINDERGARTEN NOW!

Kindergarten is a new and exciting step for everyone! As a parent, you are probably experiencing many emotions as you see your Tiny Tot growing up - excitement, anticipation, joy, and sadness. You may be asking yourself, "Where is the time going?!?"

You now have an elementary school kid, and you're going to do great! CCKids is here for you. Every child is different, but here are a few things we think will help you as you parent your kindergartner this year.



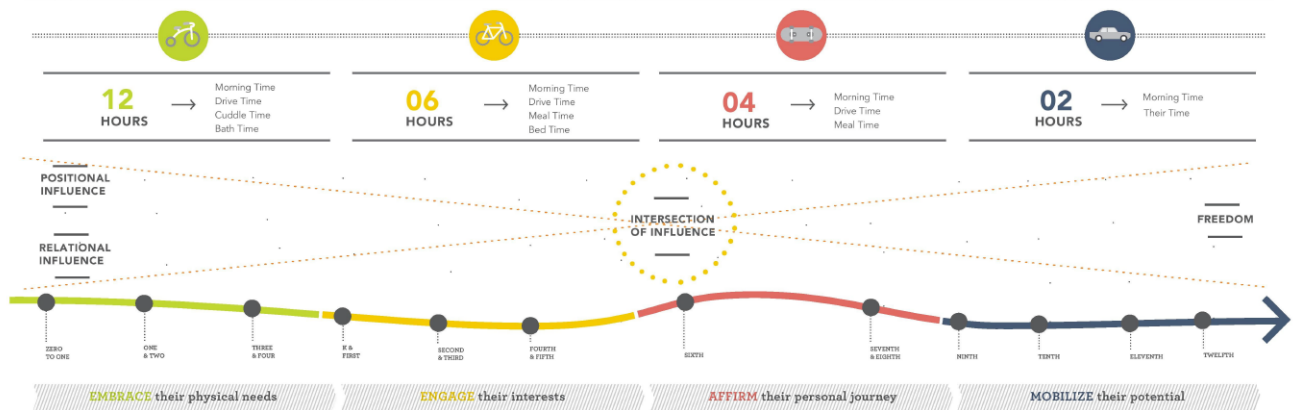
One question we believe almost every kindergartner is asking is

## “WHO’S THERE FOR ME?”

Previously your toddler may have been one adorable kid drawing the attention of multiple adults. Now they are in a group with multiple kids – some as cute and smart as they are! At school, church, or home they still crave attention and need assurance that they are not alone.

This year your child will discover that in addition to the support you provide, they will experience love and support from new friends, small group leaders, and other CCKids volunteers. As your child learns more about God’s character in CCKids, they will discover that God is ALWAYS there, and loves them unconditionally.

## PARENTAL INFLUENCE



## YOUR ROLE IN YOUR CHILD'S LIFE IS TO ENGAGE THEIR INTERESTS.

School is a big deal! Your child is now an elementary kid and with that comes many changes - homework, packing lunches, and lots of new routines. But the stress of adapting to the new routine can also be a great catalyst for discovery and growth. Your kindergartener's abilities to respond to crisis and change will sharpen as you answer their questions, listen to their stories, and show up consistently!

So that you can best engage their interest, here are 3 things to consider:

**Your child thinks like a scientist:** Giving them concrete examples will help them learn.

**Your child longs for attention:** You speak to their heart when you acknowledge their uniqueness and help them improve their abilities.

**Your child is driven by fun:** You can influence their growth and learning when you play on their level.

## HERE ARE SOME WAYS YOUR KID IS CHANGING.

### PHYSICALLY

- They are growing like weeds!
- They are beginning to lose their baby teeth.
- They are gaining dexterity (dressing themselves, riding a bike, etc.)

## SOCIALLY

- Longs to be helpful.
- Wants to be independent but needs guidance on how to do things such as taking turns and losing well.
- Eager to please, yet still self-consumed.

## MENTALLY

- Can focus on one activity for 15 minutes or less.
- Begins to recognize numbers, shapes, and colors.
- Begins to understand the difference between real and pretend.

## EMOTIONALLY

- Very sensitive to harsh words, tones, and body language.
- Deals with fear and the unknown through distractions.
- Expresses emotion through drawings and play rather than words.

## HERE ARE SOME RESOURCES WE RECOMMEND.



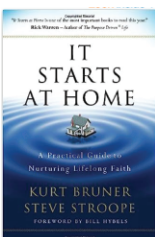
### Parenting Your Kindergartener.

This has a lot of blank pages for processing questions which isn't for everyone, but the other pages are full of very insightful information and practical advice or ideas that can help clarify how to engage with your kid.



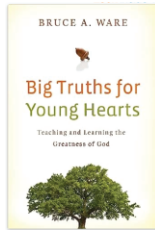
### Parent Cue Blog.

This website is crammed with tons of articles on many subjects with practical helpful advice.



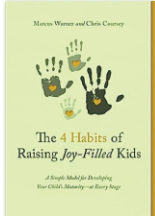
### It Starts at Home.

This is a practical guide for embracing our call as parents to nurture faith at home. Great insights and observations on our culture, and the importance of forming foundations for our kids as a family. The first half is highly intentional and motivational. The second half offers more practical ideas and models that may or may not be for you.



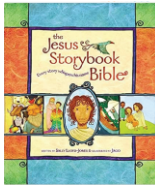
### **Big Truths for Young Hearts.**

Well-written book that introduces theology to kids. Parents can jump around the chapters and read relevant truths about God, Human nature, Salvation, and The Church as their kids inquire. Older kids may enjoy reading it on their own. This is big stuff!



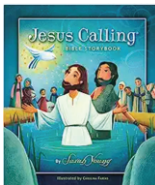
### **The Four Habits of Raising Joy-Filled Kids.**

A parenting book that introduces a simple model and applies key principles for raising the 'Joy-level' in our kids. These parenting principles are derived from the way our brains are hardwired. It's a short book, and worth the read!



### **The Jesus Storybook Bible.**

Your kids will love this! YOU will love this! Beautifully told stories that pull together the bigger story of God's salvation. Great for bed-time (or anytime you need an encouraging perspective.)



### **Jesus Calling Bible Storybook.**

This is a great resource for leading young kids through prayer and scripture in a way that helps them to hear and listen to God's voice.

If you're not able to afford one of the above resources, please reach out to us - we'd love to help!

## **HI, I'M JANNA CLARK!**



I'm the CCKids Director at Christ Community Church. I have been working in Children's ministry for 23 years, and each year has brought me such joy as God has given me a passion for kids and helping them to experience who Jesus is and how much He desires them. If you ever have any questions - let's connect. I am happy to help in any way I can (preferably over an iced chai)! You can reach me at: [jannac@cccgreeley.org](mailto:jannac@cccgreeley.org).

## **CCKIDS IS FOR KINDERGARTEN THROUGH 4TH GRADE AND MEETS DURING EVERY WEEKEND ADULT SERVICE TIME.**

In addition, CCKids Club meets most Wednesday nights during the school year from 6-8 pm.