

cbe.ab.ca

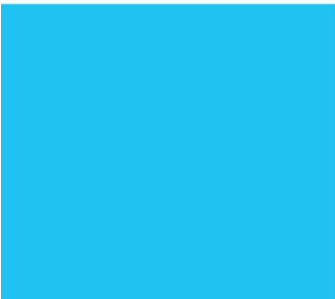


Calgary Board
of Education

Kindergarten Orientation 2025-2026

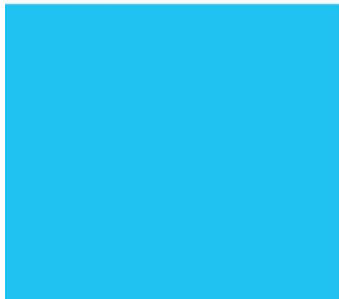
****A digital copy of this presentation is
posted on our school website**





Agenda

- Welcome!
- Learning through **PLAY** and **OUTSIDE**
- Enhanced Supports in Kindergarten
- Getting ready for kindergarten- tips for families
- First Day of Kindergarten
- Important dates & times
- Lunch
- Attendance
- Bussing
- Communication – Stay informed
- Ways to get Involved
- Questions

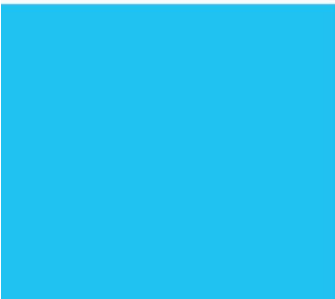


The Calgary Board of Education

The early years are a time of significant development in a child's life. Personalized attention is extremely beneficial to early learners.

Your child will learn and grow a great deal throughout the kindergarten year.

At the Calgary Board of Education, we understand that children bring their own unique talents and gifts to their learning experience. Our dedicated staff know how to help children reach their full potential.



Learning Through **PLAY**

More than just skill building or practicing for the world we will grow into, play is the primary way which children manipulate new information, fit it into existing schema or create new ones and then adjust their understanding accordingly.

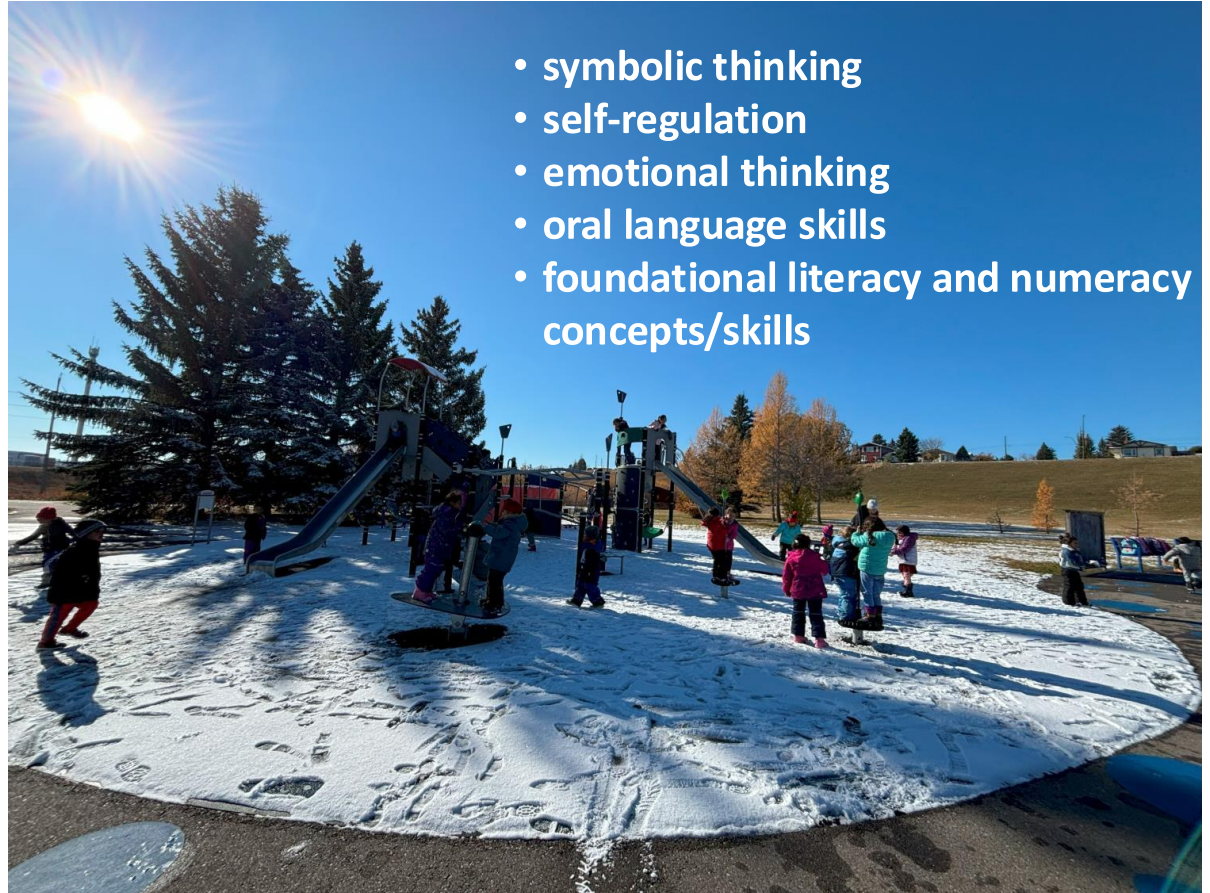
formulating **hypothesis**
engaging in experimentation and exploration
discovering patterns
creating **theories**

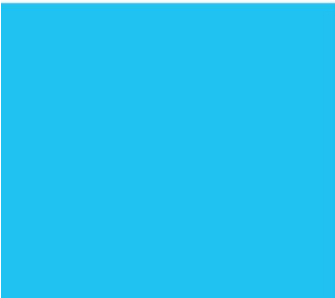


Through **PLAY**, children learn:



- symbolic thinking
- self-regulation
- emotional thinking
- oral language skills
- foundational literacy and numeracy concepts/skills





Learning Through **PLAY**



“Research shows that children who engage in complex forms of socio-dramatic play have greater language skills than non-players, better social skills, more empathy, more imagination, and more of the subtle capacity to know what others mean. They are less aggressive and show more self-control and higher levels of thinking”

~Miller & Almon

Early Literacy & Numeracy

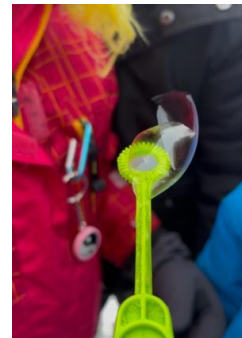




We Learn **OUTSIDE** in **FALL**



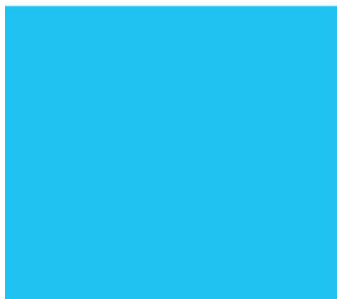
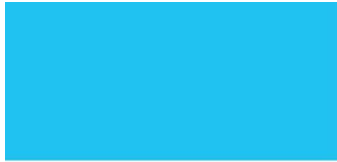
We Learn **OUTSIDE** in **WINTER**





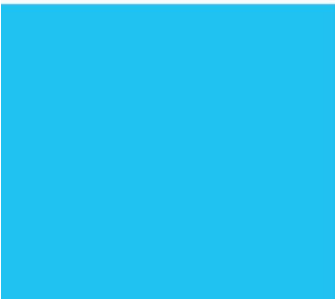
We Learn **OUTSIDE** in **SPRING**





We spend time outside every day. It is essential that your child is dressed and prepared for the weather.

[How-to-Dress-for-the-Weather.jpg \(1199×1552\) \(activeforlife.com\)](#)



Enhanced Supports

The classroom teacher is at the centre of your child's learning team and is supported by a school learning team. Based on classroom needs, each kindergarten program will also be supported by a multidisciplinary team that works with large and small groups in the classroom.

This team may consist of:

Education Assistants or Early Childhood Practitioners

Early Learning Strategists

Speech-Language Pathologists (SLPs)

Psychologists

Occupational Therapists (OTs)

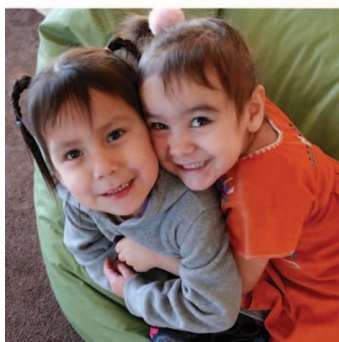
Physiotherapists (PTs)

School Family Liaison (SFL)

Getting Ready for Kindergarten



Build your child's independence by encouraging them to:



- dress themselves (zippers, buttons)
- use the bathroom and wash their hands on their own
- put away toys and help out in other small ways at home
- practice opening and closing snack containers and using a water bottle
- develop consistent bedtime and morning routines that allows 10-13 hours of sleep
- talk, sing and play in *your first language* every day
- limit screen (technology) time to 1 hr/day MAX
- play games, take turns and compromise
- take time to play outside

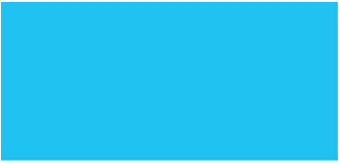


Getting Ready for Kindergarten

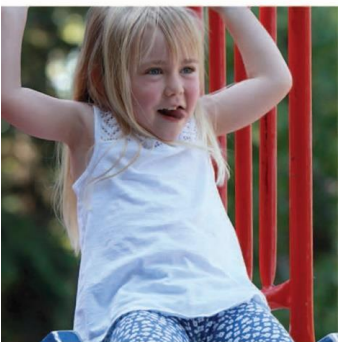
Explore Materials

This summer take time to explore some of these:

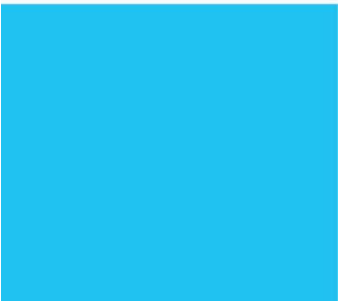


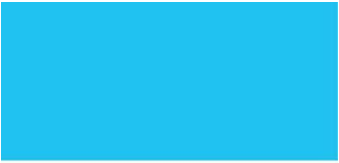


Getting Ready for Kindergarten



Read to your child every day:

- read stories together in *your first language* to help your child develop vocabulary, listening and speaking skills
 - enjoy reading different types of books: picture books, information books, nursery rhymes, poetry
 - encourage your child to talk about the pictures and stories as you read together
 - visit your community library (when possible)
- 



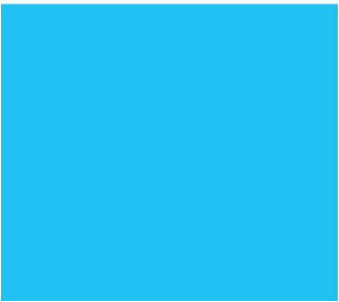
First Days of Kindergarten



Please send your child to school with:

- A backpack (large enough to hold a library book, lunch bag and water bottle)
- Indoor Running Shoes (Velcro) that your child can put on independently (shoes will stay at school)
- Lunch, snacks and water bottle
- Spare set of clothing (socks, underwear, pants, shirt), labeled in a Ziplock bag in backpack
- Warm clothing for the cooler days (including mittens, warm boots, snowpants). No umbrellas please.
- Do not send school supplies

****Please label everything (inside shoes, lunch bag, snack containers, etc.) with your child's FIRST name**



Label Child's Items



Lunch and Snack Ideas



Boomerang Lunches



At our school, we do “Boomerang Lunches”. This means:

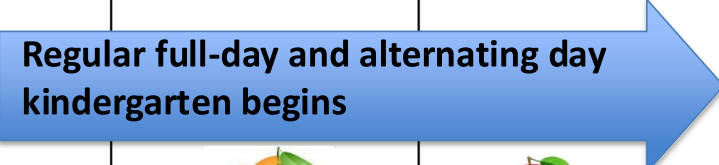
- Students bring everything home, including packaging and food waste
- Parents see first-hand what their children eat at school
- Uneaten food is not being thrown in the garbage every day

For lunch, your child needs:

- A lunch bag
- A reusable water bottle (filled with water each day)
- Containers/packaging that they can open and close independently (we recommend practicing at home before sending to school)

****You may also want to consider investing in a ‘thermos’ to send hot food for lunch (there are no microwaves).**

First Days (Important Dates & Times)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Aug.  30	Sept.  1	1 hour 2	1.5 hours 3	½ day 4	Friday ½ day ORANGES  5	 6
Sept.  7	  8				Friday ½ day APPLES  12	13
		 9	 10	 11		

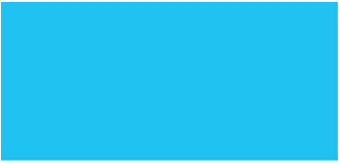
Traditional Calendar - school begins on **Tuesday, September 2nd** with "staggered entry" for kindergarten students. Students will attend as follows:

- Tuesday, Sept. 2nd - 1 hour for each student
- Wednesday, Sept. 3rd - 1.5 hour for each student
- Thursday, Sept. 4th - ½ day
- Friday, Sept. 5th - Friday ½ day (**Cornerstone Oranges & Community**)
- Monday, Sept. 8th - Regular full-day and alternating day kindergarten begins (**Cornerstone Apples & Community**)

Friday Hours:
8:18 am – 12:00 pm

First Days (Staggered Entry)

	Group A Cornerstone Last Names A-J	Group B Community Last Names A-J	Group C Community Last Names K-Z	Group D Cornerstone Last Names K-Z
Tues. Sept 2	8:30am-9:30am	10:00am-11:00am	12:00pm-1:00pm	1:45pm-2:45pm
Wed. Sept 3	8:30am-10:00 am		10:30am-12:00pm	
Thurs. Sept 4	8:30am -11:00am		12:15pm -2:45pm	
Fri, Sept 5	Regular Full Day Kindergarten begins. See you all at 8:18 am! Only Cornerstone Group Oranges			
Mon, Sept 8	Regular Full Day Kindergarten begins. See you all at 8:18 am! Only Cornerstone Group Apples			



Important Times & Dates



School Hours:

- Breakfast Club 7:50 am – 8:18 am
- School entry 8:18 am
- Flexible Recess 15 minutes
- Dismissal 3:00 pm

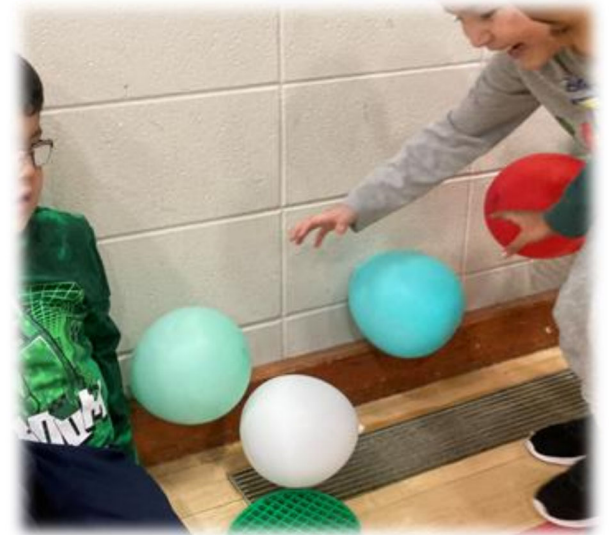
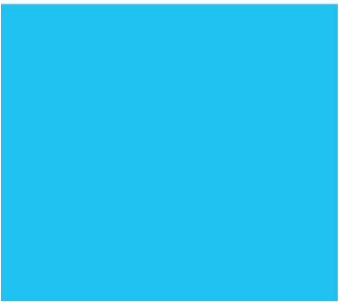
Lunch:

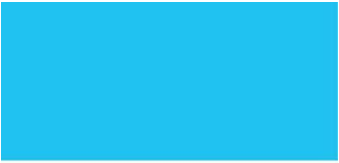
- 11:10 am – 11:53 am
 - Students will have 15 minutes of recess after eating

Fridays:

- Dismissal at 12:00 pm

****Call if your child will be absent**



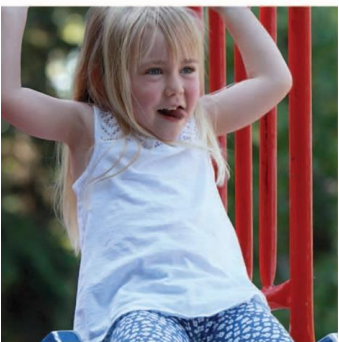


Attendance Matters in Kindergarten



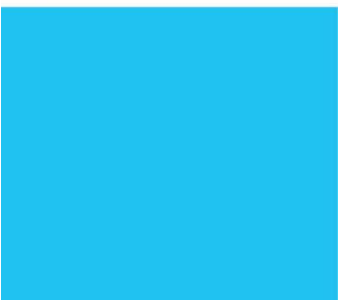
Absences add up.

Even missing **just 1 day a month** adds up to **260 days by Grade 12** — that's **almost a year and a half of school missed!**



Regular attendance helps your child:

- ✓ Adjust to school routines
- ✓ Build friendships
- ✓ Meet curriculum expectations





Attendance Matters in Kindergarten

Why This Year Matters...

The new curriculum is rich and challenging. Kindergarten lays the foundation for future success.

We work on:

- **Developing foundational literacy** — including understanding how letters and sounds work together to read and write words, and expressing ideas through drawing, talk, and early writing.
- **Building a deep understanding of number** — such as recognizing quantities, composing and decomposing numbers to 10, and solving everyday math problems.
- **Strengthening thinking and communication skills** — by asking questions, making observations, and sharing ideas through stories, play, and conversation.

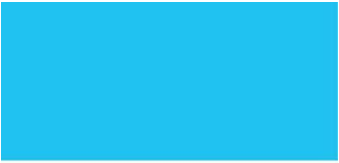
Transportation/Bussing

Register Now for Transportation

Families must register in
MyCBE by **Sunday, June 22**
for students to be added to
routes for the start of the next
school year.



- Families need to register for transportation
- Children need to be dressed for the weather
- Never leave your kindergarten child at the bus stop unattended
- A parent/adult needs to be at the bus stop to pick up kindergarten children
- **Please write your child's name and a parent contact phone number INSIDE their backpack**
- Parents need to contact the school if they are picking up their child from school
- [Busing & Transportation | Schools | Calgary Board of Education \(cbe.ab.ca\)](http://cbe.ab.ca)



Communication



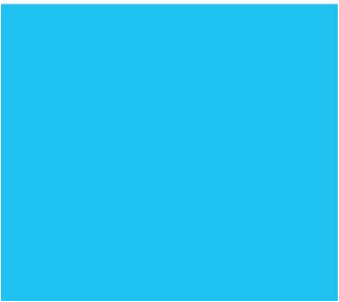
Sign up for **School Messenger** to receive emails from the school. This is the primary way we communicate with families. If you do not subscribe for emails, you will only receive limited communication. To subscribe, visit: www.cbe.ab.ca/subscribe

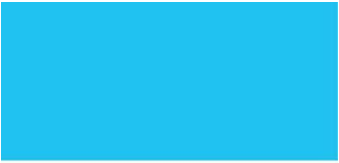
Your **MyCBE** account is where you can access information about your student's progress, school conferences, fees, etc. This is the account you created to complete online registration for your kindergarten child.

Facebook – <https://www.facebook.com/cbe.cngunn/>

Instagram – https://www.instagram.com/cbe_cngunn/

CNG Kindergarten Page - [Kindergarten at Catherine Nichols Gunn](#)



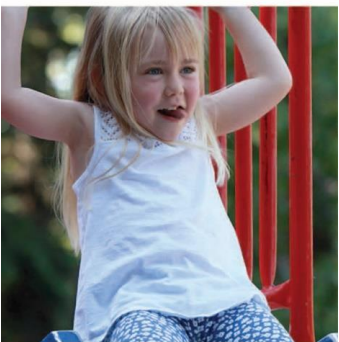


Ways to be Involved



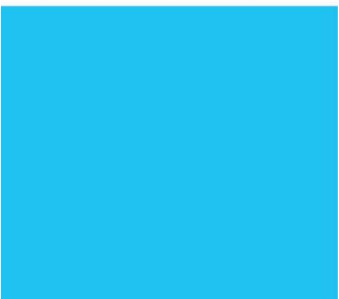
At school:

- attend **School Council** meetings and events
- volunteer in the classroom or on field trips
- join us for concerts and school events



At home:

- read daily
- watch for school emails and class updates
- talk about everyday experiences
- ask your child: "What can you tell me about your day?" or "How were you a helper today?"
- Make sure your child attends kindergarten every day!

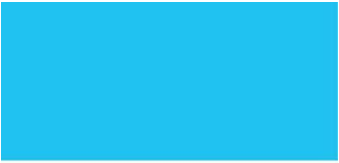


School Council | Council Chair

All parents are members of School Council:

- Monthly meetings (usually Thursday evening)
- We really need kindergarten parents involved in our School Council
- Parent involvement enriches the child's experience





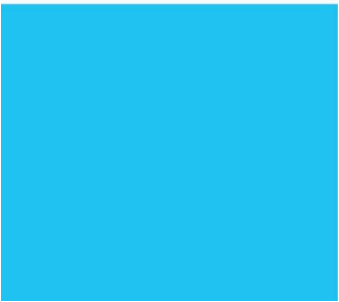
Volunteer Clearance Process



A Calgary Board of Education Police Clearance is required to volunteer at your child's school (Police Clearances from other organizations are not accepted).

Bring a piece of Government issued ID to the school office to begin the process.

It can take several weeks for the paperwork to be cleared so start the volunteer clearance process right away!

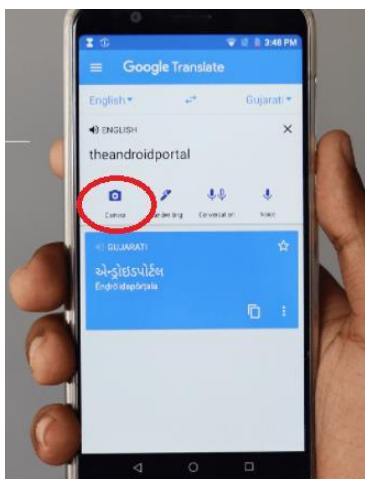


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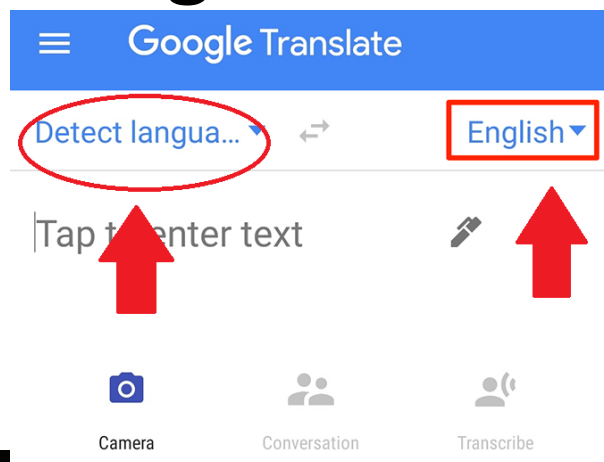


Google Translate on CBE Websites

The screenshot shows a web browser displaying the Forest Lawn High School website. The browser's address bar shows the URL `school.cbe.ab.ca/school/ForestLawn/Pages/default.aspx`. The website header includes a navigation menu with links like News Centre, Calendar, Print, For Staff, QuickLinks, and a Google Translate button, which is circled in red. A large red arrow points from the Google Translate button down to the main content area. The main content area features the Forest Lawn High School logo and the motto "Viator Via Veritatis | Travel by Way of the Truth". Below the logo is a navigation menu with links: About Us, Teaching & Learning, Extracurricular, Culture & Envir, Get Involved, and Registration. A prominent orange banner reads "ALERT: KINDERGARTEN TO GRADE 12 LEARNING FROM HOME" with a sub-message: "Starting Friday, May 7, most K-12 students will be learning at home. At this time, students are expected to return to in-class learning on Tues., May ... View Full Details". Below the banner is a large graphic with the words "HAPPY", "AFRAID", "SAD", and "ANGRY" overlaid on images of faces. To the right of the graphic are two red buttons: "Kindergarten to Grade 6 Students Move to At-Home Learning" and "CBE Recognizes CMHA Mental Health Week 2021". The bottom right corner features the Calgary Board of Education logo.



Google Translate App

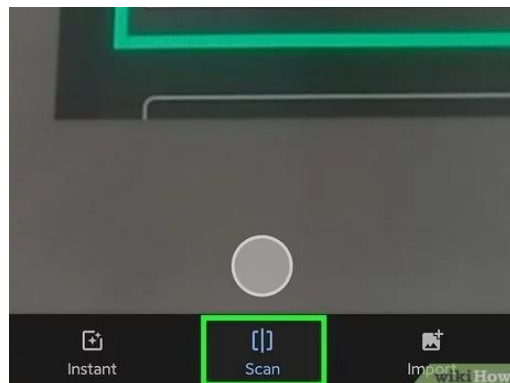


learning | as unique | as every student



Google Translate App

If you have a **long document** tap the **camera** and **then the scan button** at the bottom of the app to translate the entire document.



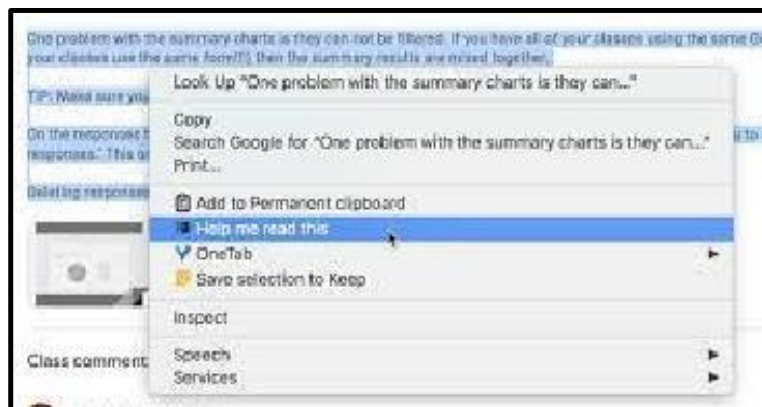
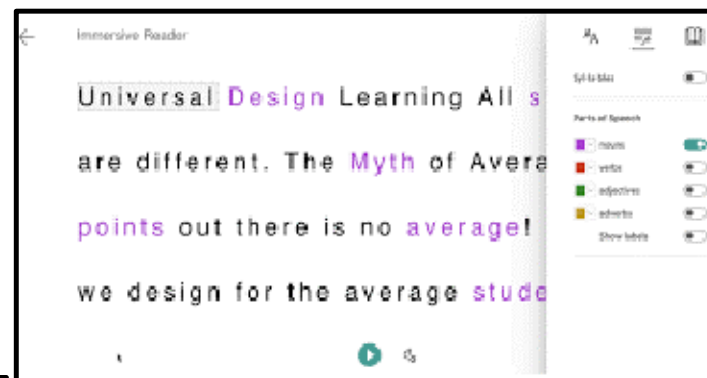
learning | [as unique](#) | as every student



Calgary Board
of Education

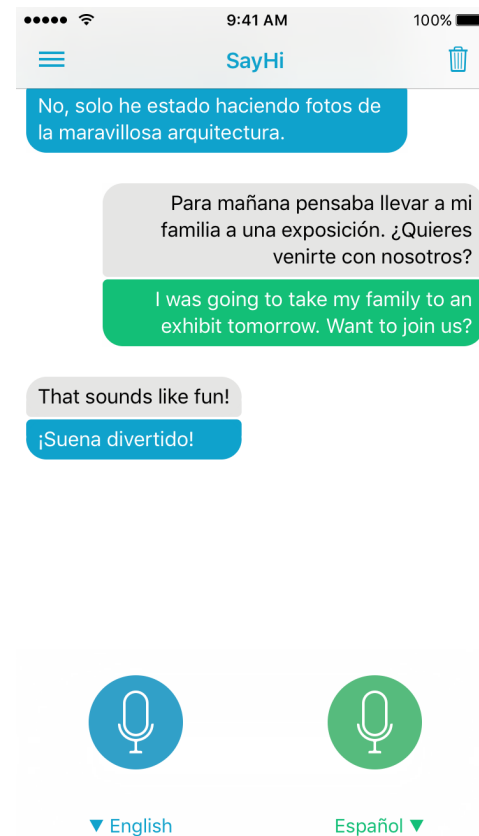
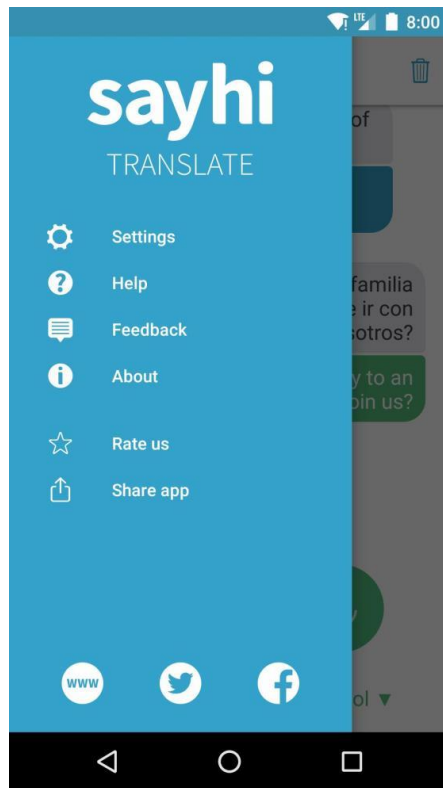


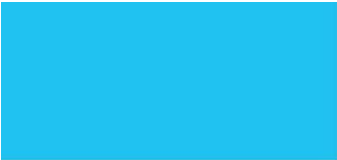
Immersive Reader



learning | as unique | as every student

SAY Hi App for Speaking Translation





Additional Resources



The Calgary Public Library- Top Tips for Kindergarten Readiness*:
<https://calgarylibrary.ca/library-news/kitchen-table-classroom-kindergarten-readiness/>



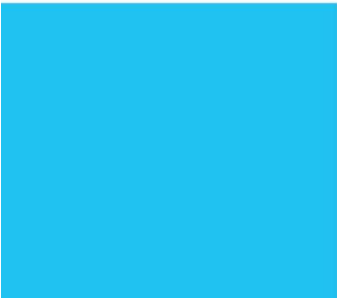
The Calgary Public Library- Kindergarten Booklist:
https://calgary.bibliocommons.com/list/share/393767397_calgarylibrary_kids/1859193931_books_to_get_ready_for_kindergarten?ga=2.167944481.1601611572.1619640025-939542020.1599601380



I'm Ready for Screens- Parent Resource:
https://banff.ca/DocumentCenter/View/11018/ImReadyForScreens_English

*Developed in collaboration with the CPL, Calgary Board of Education and the Calgary Catholic School Division

<Schools can personalize with additional community information>



Questions

