

Full-Day Learning for 4- and 5-year-olds: time to learn, grow and play



Starting in September 2010, the government will begin phasing in full-day learning for four- and five-year-olds. About 35,000 students will be able to enrol in the first year. Early learning will be expanded each year and the goal is to have it available in every school by 2015-16.



Here's what you can expect.

Enriched learning during the school day

- Teachers and early childhood educators will work together in the classroom to help young students learn and grow. This team approach will bring out the best in your child through activities and play, guided by a new curriculum.

Before- and after-school programming

- During the school year, schools will also offer programs – before and after regular school hours – led by registered early childhood educators. These programs will run during the school year and will be optional. There will be a reasonable fee for these programs if you choose to enrol, but subsidies will be available for some families, based on financial need.

Stronger start on learning

- Research shows that early learning has long-term benefits for your child's academic and social skills. A full day of learning early in life can help improve your child's reading, writing and math skills later on. And it makes the transition to Grade 1 easier – for you and your child.

In select schools for September 2010

- School boards will recommend the schools that are ready to launch early learning this fall. The phase-one schools need to have space already available. Some of the schools will be in low-income neighbourhoods. Locations will be announced early in the new year so parents have time to enrol their children for the fall.

Good for kids, good for parents, good for Ontario

- Phasing in full-day early learning across the province is an investment in our future. It's part of the government's plan to create a well-educated workforce that will help us build a stronger Ontario and compete in the global economy.

Learn more:

For more information and regular updates, please visit Ontario.ca/EarlyLearning or call:

- toll-free in Ontario, 1-800-387-5514
- from Toronto and from outside Ontario, (416) 325-2929
- TDD/TTY: 1-800-263-2892

