

K-2 Program Options

For Kindergarten Registration



Camden Rockport
Elementary School
11 Children's Way
Rockport ME 04856
cres.fivetowns.net

Student Name:

Birthdate:

In our school, we are fortunate to be able to offer two K-2 programs: Single Grade and K-2 Multiage. Outlined below are a few of the similarities and differences.

Single Grade & Multiage **Similarities:**

- High quality instruction
- Curriculum aligned to state standards
- Participate in traditional grade level activities and field trips
- Intervention services and enrichment services are provided as needed

Single Grade & Multiage **Differences:**

- Grade Level students stay with their classmates and teacher for one year. Multiage stays with their classmates and teacher for three years (K-2).
- Grade Level curriculum units are taught in one year and Multiage is a 3-year cycle.

Please indicate your preference (in order from 1-3) for your student's K-2 school program:

Single Grade ☐

Multiage ☐

No Preference ☐

If you do not return this form, No Preference will be assumed.

Parent/Guardian Name:

Signature:

Date:

Camden Rockport Elementary School



Kindergarten Program Options for 2024-2025

Kindergarten Philosophy

We are committed to nurturing each child's natural passion for learning by encouraging them to explore the world around them with curiosity. We understand that each child is unique and develops at their own pace, so we value their individual learning styles.

Our goal is to foster growth in every aspect of a child's development - social, emotional, physical, creative, and intellectual. We carefully craft activities that are both age-appropriate and meaningful, drawing inspiration from the children's own experiences.

In our kindergarten, children have the opportunity to learn both independently and collaboratively, both indoors and outdoors in nature. We empower them to become independent thinkers capable of making responsible choices.

We strive to create a warm and inclusive community where everyone - children and adults alike - cares for and respects one another. We celebrate the unique strengths and differences of each child, fostering a sense of belonging and appreciation for diversity.

Parental involvement is highly valued in our classrooms, and we welcome volunteers. We work closely with families to ensure a collaborative partnership.



Kindergarten Student Placement Process

Our priority at CRES is to develop balanced classes. Kindergarten and K-2 multiage teaching staff collaborate with building administrators to create equitable classrooms by looking at the following criteria:

- Social and emotional needs
- Academic needs
- Gender
- Age



Information gathered during our kindergarten screening is used in decision-making, and family preferences are also considered. The principal is responsible for final placement decisions.

Kindergarten students have two options when entering Camden Rockport Elementary School. Read more about those options below.

Option 1:

Single-grade Kindergarten

Our single-grade classrooms provide nurturing, high-quality kindergarten instruction. In addition to our comprehensive curriculum, based on the Common Core Standards, we foster individual learning paths for our students by recognizing and honoring personal strengths, interests, and learning styles.

Our play-based approach to education allows for exploration, hands-on learning, and high student engagement, with a focus on outdoor education. Cultivating curiosity, problem-solving skills, and grit is a part of our everyday experience.

Community building is a cornerstone of our program; children will make meaningful friendships and learn how to flourish in a social and vibrant environment.

Students in our kindergarten classrooms remain with us for one year and then have the opportunity for new classroom experiences and friendships when they enter first grade.

Our innovative approach ensures that our kindergartners embark on their educational journey with joy, confidence, and a deep sense of belonging to their school community.

Option 2:

Multiage Program (K-2)

The multiage program allows time for children to grow and develop continuing relationships with other children and their teacher over three years. Growth is supported by ongoing communication between the family and teacher.

In the multiage program, children are able to learn at their own pace in an environment that encompasses a wide range of academic and developmental levels.

It allows for flexibility in grouping of children according to need, ability, or interest. Transitions from one grade to another are minimized in multiage.

Each fall, the teacher has a core group of children familiar with classroom routines, while new students benefit from the modeling and support of their experienced classmates. Children in a multiage setting have a broad social experience with increased opportunities for leadership and mentoring.

The multiage classroom regards parents as a part of the larger partnership consisting of the teacher, the multiage child, and the parent. Parents have the opportunity to support the classroom in a number of ways and have ongoing communication with the teacher over three years.

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**Chris Walker-Spencer: Principal
Katie Bauer: Assistant Principal**

