

READY FOR KINDERGARTEN



- **FREE classes for parents of children ages birth to 5 years old!**
- **FREE materials to take home and make learning fun!**
- **FREE childcare for children 1 year-old and older!**

Did you know that;

- **Between birth and age 5, children learn at a rate that is unmatched the rest of life?**
- **Parenting practices from birth to age 5 can determine your child's lifelong learning and achievement?**
- **50% of the greater Mankato area kindergartners do not meet the literacy benchmark for incoming kindergartners?**

READY! for Kindergarten is a series of three classes per year (fall, winter and spring) for parents of children ages birth to five. Each family will be given a free set of materials to make learning at home fun. Please carefully review the class offerings below, and sign up for the class that corresponds with the age of your child.

Believe it or not, the time you spend with your child even shortly after birth will affect their long term success. By playing simple eye-movement games you will help your baby to develop the eye muscles needed for future reading. By spending just 25-30 minutes a day playing and reading with your small children, you will help prepare them for kindergarten, and their success in kindergarten is the best indicator of their success throughout their entire academic career.

Ready! for Kindergarten is a program of the Greater Mankato Early Learning Initiative. Sponsorship is provided by the Greater Mankato Area United Way and the Mankato Area Foundation.

Details:

- **Classes are Free but pre-registration is required**
- Free childcare is provided for children one year and older
- Registration deadline is January 25, 2010.
- Two Parent(s)/Guardian(s) may attend one READY! for Kindergarten class in support of each child. One set of materials per family.
- To choose the age group that is right for you, consider how old your child was on September 1st and select that age group. Example: Child was 2 on September 1st, but has had a birthday and is 3 now - you still need to take the 2-3 year-old-class.



**Registration is Easy! Call (507) 387-5501 or Register Online: www.mankatocer.com
Registration Deadline is January 25, 2010.**

**THREE CLASS SESSIONS
AVAILABLE.
PARENTS TAKE JUST ONE
CLASS PER AGE GROUP.**

**Franklin Elementary School:
Thursday, February 4, 2010, 6:00-8:00 p.m.**

Infant, entering kindergarten in 2014
Age 1-2 entering kindergarten in 2013
Age 2-3 entering kindergarten in 2012
Age 3-4 entering kindergarten in 2011
Age 4-5 entering kindergarten in 2010

**Jefferson Elementary School:
Tuesday, February 2, 2010, 6:00-8:00 p.m.**

Infant, entering kindergarten in 2014
Age 1-2, entering kindergarten in 2013
Age 2-3, entering kindergarten in 2012
Age 3-4, entering kindergarten in 2011
Age 4-5, entering kindergarten in 2010

**Kennedy Elementary School:
Tuesday, February 9, 2010, 6:00-8:00 p.m.**

Infant, entering kindergarten in 2014
Age 1-2 entering kindergarten in 2013
Age 2-3 entering kindergarten in 2012
Age 3-4 entering kindergarten in 2011
Age 4-5 entering kindergarten in 2010