

Snowline School District

Student Success Begins With

Early Childhood & Family Literacy Programs

The early childhood and family literacy programs offered in the Snowline Joint Unified School District support our district's commitment to developing successful individuals and educational excellence. These programs help lay the foundation for a love of learning with the youngest members of the Snowline learning community and support parents as the first teachers of their young children. We currently serve 216 three-year-old and four-year-old children in nine preschool programs throughout the school district, and over 30 families participate daily in our Even Start Family Literacy Program.



The preschool classrooms participate in the Desert Mountain SELPA Sunshine Play Therapy Program. This is the Sunshine Circle held at the end of the day.



Preschool students at Vista Verde using the sand and water table during free choice time with afternoon preschool teacher Jamie Ponce.

Did you know ?

Children who go to effective preschools are:

- More likely to become good readers in elementary school
- Less likely to be placed in special education or held back a grade
- More likely to graduate from high school and attend college
- Less likely to need public assistance as adults
- Less likely to be arrested or incarcerated

■ Source: Reynolds, et al, and Schweinhart, et al.

The benefits for families participating together in family literacy programs are:

- Increased achievement for children in school
- Increased school attendance for children and an increase in high school graduation rates
- Increased reading achievement for both children and parents
- Increased social awareness and self-advocacy for parents
- Increased knowledge of parenting and child development for parents
- Increases in literacy behaviors in the home for both children and parents
- Development of a foundation for lifelong learning

■ Source: Ohio Literacy Resource Center at Kent State University



Emigdia and Daisy Gallegos making Chinese New Year "Good Luck" cards during a parent and child interactive literacy session.



Teryn Mathias holding one of the Alpha Friends cards from the Houghton Mifflin Preschool ELA program.



Parents Jessica Vente, Betty Gonzalez, Lydia Yi-Marron, and Emigdia Gallegos work together creating a tactile craft (name card) to teach the sense of touch and reinforce reading and letter recognition.

What early childhood and family literacy programs does Snowline offer?

State Preschool/First 5 School Readiness

The purpose of the State Preschool and First 5 School Readiness Preschool programs are to prepare children for entrance into elementary school. The preschool classes meet for 3 hours per day on all regular school days and offer a developmentally appropriate program which focuses on developing early literacy skills, social and emotional school readiness, and early math skills. Funding for these programs is provided through a partnership with San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools and First 5 San Bernardino.

Even Start Family Literacy Program

The purpose of the Even Start Family Literacy Program is to provide educational opportunities for families through a combination of early childhood education, adult literacy (English as a Second Language), and parenting education in a unified family literacy program.

The Even Start Program consists of four components:

1. Early childhood education such as preschool or elementary school.
2. Training for parents on how to be their child's first teacher and full partners in their child's education.
3. Adult participation in English language classes.
4. Interactive literacy activities between parents and their children.

Our program operates Monday through Friday with classes meeting each morning and includes free child care.

Eligibility & Contact Information

State Preschool/First 5 School Readiness—The SJUSD preschool program offers classes at Baldy Mesa, Phelan, Pinon Hills, Vista Verde, and Wrightwood Elementary Schools. The program is free to families whose gross monthly income does not exceed the income ceilings established by the California Department of Education. Proof of income and birth certificate are required to determine eligibility. To be placed on the Centralized Eligibility List (CEL) call (909) 384-8052 OR apply on-line by clicking on Centralized Eligibility List at: www.kidsncare.com.

Applications are also available in the participating school offices. Qualifying families will be contacted by district staff for an interview to further establish eligibility and to begin the enrollment process.

Even Start Family Literacy Program—The Even Start Program is open to all families who have one eligible child and one eligible adult participating together who meet the program criteria for enrollment. An eligible child is simply a child who is in the 0 to 7 year age range. An eligible adult must be the parent or guardian of an eligible child who wishes to participate in English Language Classes. For program information or to ask about enrollment, please call the Even Start Office at (760) 868-5817, ext. 7157.

