

# Great Beginnings

**Start at the DDSB**

**Great Beginnings  
Afrocentric Program**

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## Great Beginnings Afrocentric Program

Great Beginnings Afrocentric Program is a play-based, developmentally appropriate program that will enhance children's social, emotional, physical, cognitive, language, math and literacy skills. **This program is designed for children who are not currently attending an early learning program, nursery school, preschool or child care and will be entering Junior Kindergarten (Year One) at a Durham District School Board School in September.** The goal of the program is for every child to enter Kindergarten healthy and secure, emotionally and socially competent, eager and confident. Every child can be a successful learner and respectful of the diversity of their peers. We recognize that play is children's work and children learn through play and with this philosophy, The Great Beginnings program will allow children to reach their full potential.

This program is designed to prepare children for a successful transition to kindergarten. Families will be provided with information about the important role they play, activities to support child development at home, DDSB Afrocentric Perspectives in the Classroom, DDSB Compendium of Action for Black Student Success as well as an overview of what to expect in Kindergarten.



The Great Beginnings School Success Program is delivered by registered Early Childhood Educators who work closely with families to assess each individual child's developmental achievements and act as a support for the family and the child's transition into school.

**Application Forms are now being accepted for this free program. SPACES ARE LIMITED!**

Please complete the included application form and return by **Friday, June 2nd, 2023** via:

- Scan and email completed form to [EarlyYears@ddsb.ca](mailto:EarlyYears@ddsb.ca)
- Mail to DDSB, Early Years Dept., 400 Tauton Rd. E., Whitby, ON, L1R 2K6
- Drop off at your child's home school and they will courier it to the Early Years Department.

2023 Great Beginnings Afrocentric Program will be held at **Viola Desmond Public School** beginning **Monday, July 17th, 2023** to **Friday, August 11th, 2023**

The Program operates **9:00am - 12:00pm, Monday through Friday\***.

\*Note: the program will be **closed** on Monday, August 7th, 2023.

**Healthy snacks provided daily!**

  
**Early Years**

Find us online at **ddsb.ca** go to Programs/Early Years

Contact us by email at [EarlyYears@ddsb.ca](mailto:EarlyYears@ddsb.ca)

or by phone at **905-666-5500** ext. **5440**





# GREAT BEGINNINGS AFROCENTRIC PROGRAM INTAKE APPLICATION

Child's First Name:

Child's Last Name:

Child's Date of Birth (day/month/year):

Address:

City/Town:

Postal Code:

Home Phone:

Cell Phone:

Work Phone:

E-mail:

Parent/Guardian Name:

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

What school have you registered your child at?

Has your child attended a childcare program before?

Yes

No

Length of time:

Has your child been involved in Pre-School Programs?

Yes

No

If yes which one:

Nursery School

EarlyON

Other

Length of time:

Do you have any concern about your child's development or him/her starting school?

What do you hope your child will gain from this program?

Is your child getting support from any other agency (Grandview, Kinark, HBHC, Infant Development, Behaviour Management, other)?

Has your child been diagnosed with special needs?

Yes

No

If yes, please describe:

## LANGUAGE

**Can your child's speech be understood by others most of the time?**

Yes

Sometimes

Not Yet

Comment:

**Can your child listen and attend to stories and songs with little help?**

Yes

Sometimes

Not Yet

Comment:

**Please specify your first language:**

**What language is most frequently spoken at home?**

## PERSONAL-SOCIAL

**Does your child eat by themselves using utensils?**

Yes

Sometimes

Not Yet

Comment:

**Does your child dress and undress themselves without help?**

Yes

Sometimes

Not Yet

Comment:

**Does your child wear diapers or pull-ups?**

Yes

Sometimes

Not Yet

Comment:

**Does your child like to play with other children?**

Yes

Sometimes

Not Yet

Comment:

## PERSONAL-SOCIAL

**Does your child use words to express their feelings and needs?**

**Yes**

**Sometimes**

**Not Yet**

Comment:

**Can your child separate from parent/ caregiver with some comforting?**

**Yes**

**Sometimes**

**Not Yet**

Comment:

**When your child does not get his/her way, he/she...**

**When your child is in a new situation he/she...**

**What are your child's likes and dislikes (e.g. food, hobbies, sports)?**

**Has anyone else encouraged you to apply for your child to attend the 'Great Beginnings' program?**

**Yes**

**No**

**If yes, please, tell us who referred you and why?**

**Comments:**

