

WHAT IS TINKERGARTEN?



Tinkergarten offers outdoor, play-based education classes for kids 18 months to 8 years old and a treasured adult. Both kids and adults learn and grow together in the best classroom of all—nature!

Learn more and enroll: tinkergarten.com/classes



At Tinkergarten:

- Play is learning. Inspired and guided play is powerful learning.
- Learning is child-directed, adult-supported.
- Learning is fun, joyful, and full of wonder.
- Learning is social for children and adults.
- It's always outside! Nature is the most inspiring, challenging, stimulating and refreshing classroom we could imagine.
- Leaders are coaches—here to guide the kids and the adults. If you are curious about how your child learns and what you can do to support them, leaders can help.

We believe a parent is a child's most important teacher. We're here to provide a framework, guidance and support for you and your child to enjoy these enriching experiences together.

Each Tinkergarten class has 5 parts:

1 **Opening activity**
A chance to transition into the experience

2 **Circle time**
Develops community, language, and imagination

3 **Activity launch**
Leader models best practices for inspiring child-led play

4 **Guided play**
Children play while leader and guides support

5 **Snack time**
Develop social skills, boost confidence, connect with the community, and reflect on the experience with the leader

Skills that matter

Our curriculum is designed to help children build a foundation in the skills that matter most—creativity, curiosity, persistence and grit, empathy, problem solving and collaboration. These skills help children develop into self-driven individuals who are capable, well-rounded, curious, and collaborative. It is at these early ages that children build the foundation for these elegant skills.



How do they learn at Tinkergarten?

PARENTS

Before class, leaders prepare adults for what they will observe, or what their child will experience (if another adult is present). During class, leaders share insights with adults as they observe the children, and give strategies on how-to support the play. After class, parents receive an email with photos of the class and an explanation about what the children did, why it's developmentally important, and what you can do as a family to build on the experience.

KIDS

At Tinkergarten, parents and leaders actively observe children at play. Season after season, you'll learn how to spot evidence of their development and how to open their worlds to even more learning. Here is one example of how they will learn at Tinkergarten:

Behavioral Schema

Ever notice that your kids love to fill bags, buckets and other containers with stuff? The act of gathering and moving objects is a powerful developmental tool that children ages 1.5 to 6 years old do worldwide. It's called "transporting," and it's one of a series of universal patterns called "behavioral schema" that, when encouraged will help engage kids in an activity for longer and support brain and body development more thoroughly. Many Tinkergarten activities are designed to activate these patterns when they are developmentally and age appropriate for kids. Our leaders help parents understand and utilize these patterns when they play with their own children.

*The city of Cape Coral Charter Schools do not endorse nor is affiliated with Tinkergarten.



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