



Ages and Stages:

Lakeland's Little Learners has adopted the "Ages and Stages" questionnaire as a screening tool to help us get to know your child better. We are asking you to fill out this questionnaire about your child and return it in September. This information will help us in preparing lesson plans, give us a better idea at what level each child is functioning at, and how they have developed through your eyes. Please feel free to contact us at any time if you have any questions or concerns regarding your child.

All About Me Theme:

We will be kicking off our school year with an "All About Me" theme, in which we will get to know more about all of the students and their families. We are looking forward to the children beginning the year by creating self-portraits, family portraits, writing their names, making their house out of shapes, and more! This also allows us to start assessing what level the children are at, and facilitate the planning of developmentally appropriate activities and lessons.

Grandparent's Day:

We will be celebrating Grandparent's Day on Monday, September 9th. The event goes from 9:00am-10:00am and 1:00-2:00pm for the afternoon class. Every child may invite **one** grandparent or special person to our classroom. We will be reading a story, frosting cookies, and making a craft!

Apple Barn Field Trip:

For our first field trip, we will be going to the Apple Barn on September (*TBD*). We will be leaving at 8:45 for the morning class and 12:45 for the afternoon class. We are allowed five chaperones to accompany us on the trip. We will fill these spots on a first come, first serve basis. If you are interested, please contact us using the information listed on the front page. Thank you for your understanding.

Yankee Candle Fundraiser:

Lakeland's Little Learners is hosting a Yankee Candle fundraiser. It begins on September 13th and orders are due on September 27th. Proceeds will be used towards program materials. We appreciate your participation, but it is not required.



Important Dates:

- 9/3- First Day of School
- 9/6- Back to School Coffee & Tea
Serving from 7:00 to 9:00am. Grab a cup as you head out the door!
- 9/9- Grandparent's Day Event at 9am/
Afternoon class 1pm
- 9/12 & 9/13- School Pictures (If student did not get photo taken at Open House)
- 9/13- Yankee Candle fundraiser begins
- TBD- Apple Barn Field Trip at 8:45am/
Afternoon class 12:45pm
- 9/18- No School - **We do not have school every 3rd Wednesday of the month.**
- 9/27- Yankee Candle orders due
- 9/30- No School

Welcome

to Ms. Amber and
Mr. Mike's Class!

Meet the Teachers

Hello and welcome to our 4K class! We are looking forward to an educational and exciting school year together!

My name is Amber Finster and I graduated from University of Wisconsin-Whitewater in January of 2014, with a Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education with a dual license in Special Education. I live in Elkhorn with my husband, Roy, our black cat, Leo, and our Bordie Aussie Husky puppy, Lulu. I started teaching 4K at Lakeland's Little Learners in 2015 and I have thoroughly enjoyed it! I love spending time with my friends and my very large family. I also love sports, reading, and traveling.

Hello, my name is Mike Shor and I will be helping out with Ms. Amber's morning class. I grew up in Chicago with my brother and my sister. I have been teaching at Lakeland's Little Learners for 22 years. I love exploring science and math in the classroom. In my free time I enjoy coaching and playing lacrosse. I started the Elkhorn Kwik Stix 4 years ago and have loved every minute of it!

Contact Information

Lakeland's Little Learners Phone Number: 262-723-8391
4K Classroom Email: 4kclassroom@gmail.com
Ms. Amber's Email: aфинster@lakelandslittlelearners.com

Remind

Remind is a texting app that we use as another tool to communicate with our families. It sends out text messages to your phone for important reminders. Ex: Don't forget tomorrow is our field trip to the Apple Barn! If you are interested in being on our contact list, please follow the directions below to sign up.

AM Class (4K1) Enter the number, **81010** for the phone number.
In the text, type **@msamber4k1** and send

PM Class (4K5) Enter the number, **81010** for the phone number.
In the text, type **@msamber4k5** and send



Arrival

-Parents that drop off - sign your child into front computer and walk them down to their classroom. Please try not to enter the classroom until shortly before class starts at 8:35 am!
There are other classes that share the room and teachers need time to prepare for class. If you arrive early, you and your child can play with the toys in the big room until class starts.
-Ms. Terry will get bus riders off the bus and sign them in
-Hang up backpack
-Put blue folders in folder basket
-Bring child out to the preschool playground and check in with their teacher
-If the weather doesn't allow us to go outside, the students will find a table toy at the front tables



Departure

-Students will retrieve their folder from their mailbox and collect backpacks and belongings
-Bus riders will line up at their designated spot by the tables with Ms. Terry
-Pick-ups will wait at the carpet with Ms. Amber or Mr. Mike until their ride arrives. Sign child out at front computer.

Take Home Folders

Lakeland's Little Learners will provide your child with a vinyl folder that will travel from home to school in your child's backpack. In this folder, we will send home Friday Newsletters, school communications, and family connection activities. Please check these folders daily for new information, and we will check them daily for any communication from you. There will be a "take home" and a "bring back to school" pocket, so please put communications in the correct pocket so we can get back to you ASAP. We encourage you to take them home and bring them back every day, even if there is nothing in them, so we can all get into a routine.



Newsletter

Every Friday we will send home a newsletter. You can choose to receive a paper copy or an email. Paper copies will be sent home in your child's folder and emails will be sent out around noon. The newsletters describe what we learned during the week and what we will do the following week. We will give you ideas for weekly family connection activities, which are related to what we're learning in class. Also, we will list special and important dates to keep an eye out for, such as field trips, class parties, family nights, concerts, and no school days.

Birthdays and Snacks

When it is your child's birthday, or there's a special occasion, you are always welcome to bring in a treat for the class. Please ask teachers for any special allergy restrictions.

-There are no obligations to bring in a birthday treat-
Lakeland's Little Learners provides a snack and milk every day for each student. There is a monthly snack calendar posted on our bulletin board next to our lesson plans. If your child has food allergies, they can bring in their own healthy snack if they choose. We will also have snack sign-up sheets posted outside of the classroom for special occasions like our Halloween party and Thanksgiving Feast.



Cubbies

Each child has a cubby labeled with their name. Please bring in a full set of extra clothes to keep in your child's cubby. This is not just for bathroom accidents; spills and messes happen and we want everyone to be dry and comfortable. Also, as the year goes on, weather changes, and children grow, please make sure appropriate extra clothes are available for your child. If you are looking for something to do with your child's too small clothes, please keep Lakeland's Little Learners in mind for donations.

Backpacks are to be hung on the hook directly under each child's cubby. (Please make sure backpacks are large enough to carry a 2 pocket folder, no mini backpacks, thank you!) When it starts to get cooler and your child starts bringing their jackets and coats please be aware that as a center policy, they are to be put in their cubby, backpack, or recyclable eco bag, they cannot hang on the hook.

Star of the Week



Every student will get the opportunity to be our special student for the week. The Friday before their week, we will send home a poster and instructions. Please return the instructions and the poster of your child's favorite things the following Monday. You can use the paper provided (or not), you can be as creative as you want! We will also send home a stuffed Pete the Cat and a journal on Monday to document your child's week with Pete, which is to be returned on Friday. Please take special care of Pete; he has been a part of our 4K family for a long time! Your child may also bring five special items to share with the class for show and tell on Wednesday that week. If it is a week with no 4K on Wednesday, your child can bring their show and tell on Thursday.