



A Typical Day for a Kindergarten Student at Yu Ming Charter School

8.00-8.15: Gather on the blacktop for the start of the day

Children enter school through the front door and then proceed through the hallway and out onto the blacktop to gather before the bell rings at 8.15am

8.15 to 8.45: Calendar routine

Teachers run through the day of the week, month and year and talk about the day's weather and review characters previously introduced that week. They read the story book of the week and sing the song associated with the story.

8.45-9.45: mini lesson followed by centers

The teacher will introduce the Mandarin language concept/ vocabulary of the day to the whole class. Students will answer questions and chorally practice new vocabulary then they will independently practice the concept/ language. We use a range of materials for our MLA program including textbooks and readers from Better Chinese. We use a range of materials for our MLA program including textbooks and readers from Better Chinese.

Teachers have five centers in total per week and children spend 1 day at each. Centers are designed to give children a variety of activities to review this/last week's topics. Centers will always include a listening center and a reading center and usually some word work.

9.45 to 10.05: Morning recess on the play structure

Children will first take a snack (either in their room or out on the playground) and then proceed to the play-structure where they have approximately 15 minutes free play with their classmates and fellow kindergartners. We ask for children to be respectful, responsible and safe in all areas of the school and at all times.

10.05-11.35: Project based learning

Students will work on their multi-disciplinary, Social Studies and Science units. These can be connected to yearly events like 'Earth Day' and 'Chinese New Year'.

11.35-12.05: Pre-lunch recess and lunch

Students take 10 minutes of active play on the black top prior to eating their lunch. They are escorted down to the lunch hall where they have their packed meal or their 'Revolution Foods' hot lunch. Their food is locally sourced and is low in fat with plenty of fresh fruit and vegetables.

12.05-12.20pm: Free play

Students have some quiet time in their classroom after lunch. They select a book or some toys to play with.

12.20-1.00pm: English

Students are collected from their classroom by teacher Christina. They are escorted down to the English room where they will spend 40 minutes in English language instruction. A typical English lesson will start with a mini lesson, such as an introduction to a new phonetic sound and words with that initial sound. This will be followed by some independent work done in small groups.

1.00-1.55pm: New concept in Math 'mini lesson' and independent / group work

The teacher will introduce a new math concept, such as addition in single digits. She will start at the board with the children on the carpet and will repeat the concept with a range of examples. Children will then go to their tables and participate in either group work or independent work using math manipulatives.

1.55-2.15pm: Afternoon recess

Children spend their afternoon recess on the blacktop, playing 4-square, basketball, or whatever it is they choose.

2.15-3.00pm:

Children complete work from earlier in the day and finish up the day by sitting in a circle on the carpet and sharing what they have learnt.

3.00pm: End of the day bell