



**WELCOME TO  
GREATER HEIGHTS  
ACADEMY!**



**YOUR GUIDE TO  
KINDERGARTEN READINESS**

# ABOUT GREATER HEIGHTS

**Greater Heights Academy is a tuition-free elementary charter school serving scholars grades K-6 in Flint, Michigan. We represent a partnership of scholars, faculty, staff and administration. We are united in our mission to achieve academic success for all scholars through positive family, school and community relationships. In addition, we provide opportunities for character development to enable our scholars to grow into responsible, respectful members of society.**

Scholars are our first priority. We understand and recognize that a parent is a scholar's first and primary educator and diligently pursue strong, beneficial home/school relationships. We believe that traditional fundamentals of education must be enhanced to form a solid foundation for our scholars' futures. Join us!







# WHY CHOOSE GREATER HEIGHTS?

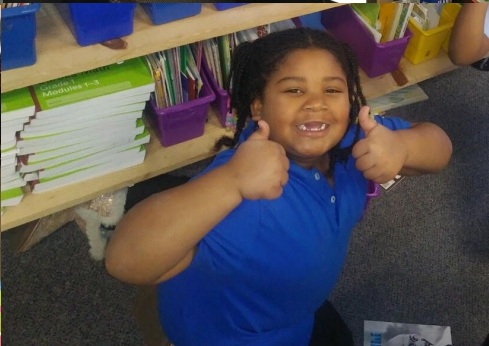


**Free iPads & Chromebooks\***

\*available while supplies last



**Dedicated Teachers & Staff**



**Boys & Girls Club**



**Weekly Meal Distributions for Families**



**Free Summer Learning Program**



# WAYS TO PREPARE

Children learn many new skills during the kindergarten experience. Below is a list of activities and tactics that you and your child can work on together to better prepare them for when they start school.

- + Say body parts
- + Learn names of immediate family
- + Say phone number & address
- + Visit public places like parks & libraries
- + Initiate frequent social interaction
- + Teach acceptable ways to disagree
- + Play that teaches hand-eye coordination
- + Encourage work values (effort, persistence, initiative)
- + Recognize basic shapes
- + Count from 0-10
- + Say (not sing) the ABC's
- + Talk positively about school
- + Encourage physical activity everyday
- + Establish reasonable limits on behavior
- + Read to them & discuss the story
- + Encourage social values (helpfulness, cooperation, sharing)



# ESSENTIAL SKILLS CHECKLISTS

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## Intellectual: Does your child...

- Hold a book upright and turn pages left to right?
- Tell and retell familiar stories?
- Recognize at least ten letters of the alphabet?
- Know colors, shapes, and sizes?

## Social: Can your child...

- Listen to an adult & follow simple instructions?
- Sit for short periods of time?
- Play with other children without hitting or biting?
- Cooperate with other children?

## Personal: Without help, can your child...

- Tie their own shoes?
- Snap, button, zip, & buckle?
- Recognize their own possessions?
- Eat with silverware unassisted?
- Wash their hands?
- Blow their nose & cover a sneeze?

## Health: Has your child...

- Had all required immunizations?
- Had a recent health check-up?
- Developed a regular meal schedule?
- Learned to run, skip, jump, climb?



## READING

Prior to kindergarten, children typically learn the concepts of reading through games and activities. Many of these skills are learned through modeling.



Recognize spaces between words



Identify the different types of punctuation



Recognize upper and lower case letters



## MATH

The development of number concepts—classifying, ordering, counting and time and space relationships—is directly related to children’s ability to perform mathematical tasks throughout their school years and the rest of their life.



Observe page numbers



Compare sizes: big, little, middle



Observe position in space: up/down, under/over, in/out, beside/between



## SCIENCE

As children mature, they become more curious about their environment and begin to interact with their surroundings. This is the best time to introduce them to science. Rich sensory experiences (seeing, tasting, touching, hearing, and smelling) can help children become even more observant about the world around them.



Observe what is happening



Predict what might happen



Try to make sense of observations

# THE BASICS

Set your child up for academic growth and success before they start kindergarten by discussing and reviewing the basic principles of reading, math and science listed above.





# TESTIMONIALS



"When you invest in scholars and create great schools and great opportunities, it changes generations."

**Earl Martin Phalen**

*Founder & CEO,  
Phalen Leadership Academies*

"This school celebrates kids. They praise children so well and they balance it with high expectations. It is a game-changer for these students—hearing how great they do and how capable they are."

**Parent Testimonial**



"We use so much data because it makes the learning concrete. The students can see exactly what they know and what areas they need to work. Their parents are able to see exactly what they know and what they need to work on. It makes it so much clearer for us to plan our instruction."

**Teacher Testimonial**

"These are great people; I like the testing; I like the curriculum they have. I said, 'Let's give it a chance,' and it worked out. My kids are honor roll students."

**Parent Testimonial**





# Dear Parents,

Kindergarten is a major turning point in the lives of children and parents alike. Early school experiences have lasting effects on a child's attitude about school, their self-esteem and future achievements. Fortunately, the best person to ensure that your children arrive at school ready to succeed is you! Allow us to partner with you on this new journey at Greater Heights Academy. We truly love our scholars and we believe in their ability to achieve. We hope that you find this information helpful. We look forward to welcoming you!

Sincerely,

*Earl Martin Phalen*

Earl Martin Phalen, Founder & CEO  
Phalen Leadership  
Academies

## To Kindergarten and Beyond at Greater Heights Academy!



810.768.3860



[bit.ly/GreaterHeightsKinder](https://bit.ly/GreaterHeightsKinder)



**Greater Heights Academy**

3196 W. Pasadena Ave, Flint, MI 48504

*Scan the code  
to learn more!*

