



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**March 9, 2009**

**CONTACT**  
**Lisa Michals**  
**(803) 734-0867**

**Now enrolling! Free 4-year-old kindergarten for low-income children**

More than 40 private and non-profit preschools are now accepting applications for state-funded 4-year-old kindergarten for the 2009-10 school year. Qualifying families pay no tuition as part of the state’s Child Development Education Pilot Program. Soon to enter its fourth year, the program seeks to extend 4-year-old kindergarten to children living in select SC school districts.

**To qualify, a child must:**

- **Be 4 years old on or before Sept. 1, 2009.**
- **Be eligible for free/reduced lunch or Medicaid.**
- **Live in one of the following school districts: Abbeville, Allendale, Bamberg 1, Bamberg 2, Barnwell 19, Barnwell 29, Barnwell 45, Berkeley, Chesterfield, Clarendon 1, Clarendon 2, Clarendon 3, Dillon 1, Dillon 2, Dillon 3, Florence 1, Florence 2, Florence 3, Florence 4, Florence 5, Hampton 1, Hampton 2, Jasper, Laurens 55, Laurens 56, Lee, Lexington 4, Marion 1, Marion 2, Marion 7, Marlboro, McCormick, Orangeburg 3, Orangeburg 4, Orangeburg 5, Saluda or Williamsburg.**

The 4-year-old kindergarten program runs the full school year (180 days), and classes are held for 6.5 hours per day, five days per week. All programs utilize research-based curricula. Parents are encouraged to contact participating local providers in their area for more information:

Provider Name and Address	County	Phone
Kids R Us 263 Railroad Avenue, SC 29810	Allendale	(803) 584-3295
Bedford’s Stay-n-Play 140 Carolina Ave., Barnwell, SC 29812	Barnwell	(803) 541-7704
New Jerusalem AAA Daycare Center 9303 Marlboro Ave., Barnwell, SC 29812	Barnwell	(803) 541-6007
Sunshine House #106 1102 Dennis Blvd., Moncks Corner, SC 29461	Berkeley	(843) 761-8738
Betty’s Daycare and Preschool 122 Elm Street, St. Stephens, SC 29479	Berkeley	(843) 567-2624
Sunshine House #29 2145 NAD Road, North Charleston, SC 29406	Charleston	(843) 553-0328
Foster’s Child Care Center, Inc. 2260 Otranto Road, Charleston, SC 29418	Charleston	(843) 569-3914
Wee Academy Learning Center 625 W. Huggins St., Manning, SC 29102	Clarendon	(803) 435-2071

Provider Name and Address	County	Phone
Prosperity Childcare, Inc. 528 Cartersville Hwy., Lamar, SC 29069	Darlington	(843) 326-8842
Little Treasures Christian Learning Center 1612 Commerce Drive, Dillon, SC 29536	Dillon	(843) 774-8102
Pee Dee CAP Head Start (Hamer) 428 Elkins Road, Dillon, SC 29536	Dillon	(843) 841-3116
Pee Dee CAP Head Start (Whittaker) 2624 Worship St., Whittaker, SC 29536	Dillon	(843) 841-3116
Angel's Inn Child Care 2030 N. Cashua Dr., Florence, SC 29501	Florence	(843) 665-4540
Excellent Learning Preschool, Inc. 807 N. Irby St., Florence, SC 29506	Florence	(843) 679-5386
Pee Dee CAP Head Start (Lake City) 209 Graham Road, Lake City, SC 29560	Florence	(843) 394-5466
Pee Dee CAP Head Start (Thelma Brown) 304 N. Alexander St., Florence, SC 29501	Florence	(843) 678-3417
The Gail and Terry Richardson Center for the Child 4822 E. Palmetto Street, Florence, SC 29501	Florence	(843) 661-1630
The Sunshine House #30 Mailing and Physical: 2009 Second Loop Road, Florence, SC 29501	Florence	(843) 669-1997
Zion Canaan Child Development Center 612 S. Hill St., Timmonsville, SC 29162	Florence	(843) 346-0499
Little Smurf's Child Development 903 Martin Luther King, Andrews, SC 29510	Georgetown	(843) 264-3262
Mellon Patch 103 First St., Hampton, SC 29924	Hampton	(803) 943-5055
Kids 'N' Company 2885 Hwy 221, Laurens, SC 29360	Laurens	(864) 682-5727
Bishopville Lee Child Care 118 E. College St., Bishopville, SC 29010	Lee	(803) 484-6800
Lynchburg-Elliott Child Development Center 101 McIntosh St., Lynchburg, SC 29080	Lee	(803) 437-2447
Agapeland Day Care Center 304 Huggins St./613 Dunlop St., Marion, SC 29571	Marion	(843) 423-2077
McGill's Bundles of Joy 608 Dunlop Ext., Marion, SC 29571	Marion	(843) 423-6561
Troy-Johnson Learning Corner 106 Gapway St., Mullins, SC 29574	Marion	(843) 464-8565
Pleasant Grove Academy 1333 Penderboro Road, Marion, SC 29571	Marion	(843) 423-2096
Happyland Child Development 335 Murray Road, Orangeburg, SC 29115	Orangeburg	(803) 533-1281
Kids in Motion Day Care Center 2371 Russell St., Orangeburg, SC 29115	Orangeburg	(803) 531-9447
SC State University Child Development/Learning Center 300 College St., Orangeburg, SC 29117	Orangeburg	(803) 536-7150
ABC Academy 405 N. Wise Road, Saluda SC 29138	Saluda	(864) 445-7999
Graham's Enhancement 1384 Eastland Ave., Kingstree, SC 29556	Williamsburg	(843) 382-2115
Kindale Park Day Care 1185 Kindale Park Road, Kingstree, SC 29556	Williamsburg	(843) 382-3667
Little Miss Muffet Day Care Mailing and Physical: 1006 Wilkerson St., Kingstree, SC 29556	Williamsburg	(843) 355-7013

Provider Name and Address	County	Phone
Nesmith Community Day Care 2774 Turkey Creek Road, Nesmith, SC 29580	Williamsburg	(843) 382-3241
Wilson's Daycare and Learning Center 501 Lawrence St., Kingstree, SC 29556	Williamsburg	(843) 354-6270
Doodle Bug Academy 4400 N. Williamsburg County Hwy., Lake City, SC 29560	Williamsburg	(843) 210-7529

-#####-

*South Carolina First Steps to School Readiness is a comprehensive, results-oriented statewide education initiative to help prepare children to reach school healthy and ready to succeed. Public and private support are combined through county partnerships to enable individual communities to address the unmet needs of young children and their families.*

**1300 Sumter Street • Concord Building, Suite 100 • Columbia, South Carolina 29201**  
**Phone: 803-734-0479 • Fax: 803-734-1431 • Web site: [www.scfirststeps.org](http://www.scfirststeps.org)**