



Meet the Teacher

Mrs. Ashley Padgett • Kindergarten RISE/SOAR

Hi families!

My name is Mrs. Padgett, and I am so excited to welcome your child to our Kindergarten RISE/SOAR classroom this year at MacArthur!

This will be my third year teaching at MacArthur, where I previously taught K-2 Resource. I have worked with individuals with disabilities for the past 12 years in a variety of settings, and helping students grow in communication, independence, and confidence is truly my passion. My degree specializes in Early Childhood Development with Differentiated Instruction with a specialization in Early Intervention, and I love creating a classroom environment where students feel safe, successful, supported, and celebrated.

Outside of school, I love spending time with my family, our two dogs, and enjoying outdoor activities like paddle boarding and camping!

This year, we will focus heavily on:

- Building routines and structure
- Communication skills
- Independence and self-help skills
- Social-emotional growth
- Hands-on learning and activities

Supplies needed for first day:

- Backpack & snack
- 2 changes of clothes in gallon labeled bag, with name
- Hygiene wipes & diapers/pull-ups if applicable
- Gallon-sized zip-top bags
- Sandwich/snack-sized zip-top bags
- Communication device labeled with name
- Personal water bottle labeled with name
- Lunch (if not purchasing school lunch in cafeteria)



If you would like to support our classroom, here is our Amazon Wishlist:

<https://www.amazon.com/registries/gl/guest-view/3FTZ2Y9ULE21>

IMPORTANT DATES:

- **Meet the Teacher: Tuesday August 4th 3-6 pm**
- **1st day of school: Thursday, August 6th**

I cannot wait to meet your child and partner with your family for an amazing school year! - Mrs. Padgett



Mrs. Padgett's

CLASSROOM CELEBRATION LIST

PREPACKAGED BIRTHDAY TREAT IDEAS

Thank you for helping us celebrate in healthy and safe ways!

The following items are prepackaged options that do not contain any of the ingredients prohibited by the [Arizona Healthy Schools Act](#).



COOKIES & SWEET SNACKS



- MadeGood Soft Baked Mini Cookies
- Annie's Bunny Grahams (Honey, Friends, Neapolitan or Birthday Cake)
- Simple Mills Sweet Thins (Honey Cinnamon)
- Partake Crunchy Cookies (Chocolate Chip)
- Nature's Bakery Fig Bars
- That's it. Soft Baked Cookies
- 88 Acres Seed Bars



FRUIT TREATS



- Dole Fruit Bowls (packed in juice)
- Crunch Pak Apple Slices
- Fresh Cut Fruit Cups (packed in juice)
- Cuties Clementines
- Grapes (pre-washed bags)
- Strawberries
- Blueberries
- Raspberries
- Watermelon Cubes
- Fruit Kabobs (from pre-cut fruit)



FRUIT SNACKS



- That's it. Mini Fruit Bars
- GoGo squeeZ Unsweetened Applesauce Pouches
- Mott's No Sugar Added Applesauce Pouches
- Tree Top Fruit Pouches
- Sun-Maid Raisins
- Ocean Spray Craisins® Dried Cranberries
- Welch's Fruit 'n Yogurt Snacks (check label for colors)



CRUNCHY SNACKS



- SkinnyPop Popcorn (Plain or Lightly Salted)
- Boom Chicka Pop (Sea Salt)
- Harvest Snaps (Green Pea Crisps)
- Pretzel Twists (Snyder's or Rold Gold)
- Triscuit Whole Grain Crackers
- Goldfish Whole Grain (varieties without artificial colors)
- Freeze-Dried Strawberries (Brothers All Natural, Natierra or Crispy Green)
- Freeze-Dried Apples (Crispy Green or Great Value)



PROTEIN SNACKS



- String Cheese (Sargento, Frigo or Polly-O)
- Babybel Mini Cheese
- Chobani or Stonyfield Yogurt Tubes
- Chobani or Oikos Greek Yogurt Cups
- Boiled Eggs (prepackaged)
- Hummus Cup with Pretzels or Crackers



PLEASE AVOID

These items commonly contain one or more of Arizona's prohibited additives.



- ✗ Frosted cupcakes
- ✗ Cookies with frosting or bright colors
- ✗ Skittles®
- ✗ Starburst®
- ✗ Gummy candies
- ✗ Fruit Roll-Ups®
- ✗ Fruit by the Foot®
- ✗ Pop-Tarts®



- ✗ Colored or frosted breakfast pastries
- ✗ Brightly colored fruit snacks
- ✗ Colored sports drinks
- ✗ Kool-Aid® or similar powdered drinks



NON-FOOD CELEBRATION IDEAS



Birthday crown



Birthday sticker



Birthday pencil



Birthday bookmark



Read-aloud choice



Dance party



Bubble party



Extra recess



Game time (choice)



Teacher helper for the day



PLEASE CHECK INGREDIENT LABELS BEFORE PURCHASING.

Due to the Arizona Healthy Schools Act, classroom treats may not contain potassium bromate, propylparaben, titanium dioxide, brominated vegetable oil, Yellow 5, Yellow 6, Blue 1, Blue 2, Green 3, Red 3, or Red 40. Product ingredients may change over time.



Thank you for helping us keep our classroom healthy, happy, and safe!



Welcome to Kindergarten!

Dear Families,

Welcome to our classroom! I am so excited to begin the school year and get to know you and your child. To help your child have a successful and comfortable first day, please send the following items to school.

Students should have a backpack, & a snack daily, along with their personal communication device. If your child has specific sensory equipment please send that as well.

Please Send With Your Child on the First Day:

Please send **2 complete changes of clothes** in a **gallon-sized zip-top bag** labeled with your child's name.

Each change of clothes should include:

- Shirt
- Pants or shorts
- Socks
- Underwear
- Diapers or pull-ups (if your child is still potty training)

Please keep these clothes at school in case of spills, accidents, or messy activities.

Personal Supplies

- Hygiene wipes
- Gallon-sized zip-top bags
- Sandwich/snack-sized zip-top bags

Classroom Donations (Optional but Greatly Appreciated)

If you are able, our classroom could also use the following supplies throughout the year:

- 1 ream of copy paper
- Facial tissues
- Hand sanitizer
- Disinfectant wipes & Disposable gloves

Thank you for helping us prepare for a wonderful school year! Your support helps create a clean, organized, and welcoming learning environment for all of our students. I can't wait to meet everyone and have an amazing year together!

Mrs. Ashley Padgett

Kindergarten Autism Program

MacArthur Elementary - room A5

Dear Families,

Thank you for taking the time to attend Meet the Teacher! I am so excited to partner with your family this school year and look forward to getting to know each of you. Working together will help your child have a successful, positive, and meaningful kindergarten experience.

Backpack Tags

- **If your child is a bus rider**, a **bus tag** will be attached to your child's backpack with a zip tie. Please keep this tag attached throughout the school year.
- **All kindergarten students** will receive a **Kindergarten identification tag** attached to their backpack on the first day of school. This tag helps staff safely guide students during arrival, dismissal, lunch, specials, and other school routines. Please keep this tag attached to your child's backpack throughout the school year.

Communication Folder: *Your child will bring home a communication folder every day. We call it our SHINE folder!*

This folder will be used for:

- Classroom and school information
- Important notices
- Student work
- Daily communication

You may write notes to me using a **dry-erase marker** on the communication log inside the folder. Close collaboration and communication between home and school are essential in helping your child learn, grow, and achieve their individual goals.

Communication: *If you have any questions or concerns throughout the school year, please don't hesitate to reach out! I can be contacted through:*

- ParentSquare
- Email

I value open communication and look forward to working together as a team to support your child.

Transportation: *If your child has a different dismissal plan on certain days, please let the front office know and notify me in writing whenever transportation changes. This helps ensure your child arrives at the correct destination safely.*

Classroom Colors: *Each student will be assigned a classroom color. Their color will be used throughout the day to help with:*

- Learning routines
- Classroom organization
- Small group instruction
- Smooth transitions
- Building independence

Visual Supports: *Our classroom uses a variety of visual supports to help students be successful, including:*

- Visual schedules
- Visual timers
- Picture supports
- Communication visuals (PECS/AAC supports)

These tools help students build independence, understand expectations, communicate effectively, and feel confident throughout the school day.

Curriculum: *Our classroom provides individualized instruction using evidence-based curriculum along with engaging, hands-on learning experiences. Some of the programs we use include:*

- Sounds Sensible
- Unique Learning System
- SAVVAS Math
- Scholastic resources
- Teach Town

Students also learn through a variety of hands-on activities, sensory-focused learning opportunities, manipulatives, centers, movement, and play-based experiences designed to meet each child's individual learning needs.

Please Label Personal Items: Please label all personal belongings with your child's name, including:

- Water bottle
- AAC device (if applicable)
- Lunch box
- Jacket or sweater

Familiar Faces & Places Book: Please take a Familiar Faces & Places book home and read it together with your child before the first day of school. Becoming familiar with staff members and important locations around the school can help reduce anxiety, build confidence, and make the transition to kindergarten more comfortable.

Thank you for your partnership, trust, and support. I am looking forward to an amazing year filled with learning, growth, friendships, and celebrating all of your child's successes!

Warmly,

Mrs. Ashley Padgett
Kindergarten Autism Program
MacArthur Elementary - room A5

Email: arpadgett@mpsaz.org

ParentSquare: Message me anytime through the ParentSquare app.