THE AMERICAN SCHOOL
OF PUERTO VALLARTA

Kindergarten Classroom Teacher

American School of Puerto Vallarta (ASPV)

Our mission: We strive to be a multicultural learning community that nurtures the values and abilities which inspire in each of us the confidence to further our education, pursue our dreams, and serve as compassionate, responsible citizens.

About the Role

Our early childhood program is grounded in play-based, project-based learning, drawing inspiration from approaches such as Reggio Emilia that value children's curiosity, exploration, creativity and active participation in learning.

We are looking for a warm, curious and skilled kindergarten teacher to lead a self-contained classroom of five- and six-year-olds. Kindergarten is where our students first build the habits, curiosity and confidence that carry them through ASPV. Many of our children are learning in English as an additional language, so the ideal candidate knows how to make a classroom rich in language, play and belonging for every child.

Guided by children's questions and interests, the teacher designs in-depth projects that weave together early literacy, numeracy, science, social studies and social-emotional learning, aligned to Common Core standards for English Language Arts and Mathematics and grounded in Universal Design for Learning (UDL) so that all learners can access the curriculum and show what they know.

Key Responsibilities

Teaching and learning

- Develop an emergent, project-based curriculum through long-term projects that grow from children's ideas, with clear learning goals in literacy, numeracy and the content areas.
- Teach foundational reading skills (phonemic awareness, phonics, early writing) and early number sense through hands-on, concrete experiences.

- Apply UDL principles: offer multiple ways for children to engage, take in information and express their learning, including the "hundred languages" of drawing, clay, construction, light, movement and dramatic play.
- Support English language development through intentional oral language, vocabulary and visual supports, while honoring students' home languages.
- Differentiate for a wide range of readiness, including students who need extra support and those ready for extension, working with learning support staff as needed.

Classroom community and social-emotional growth

- Build a safe, predictable and nurturing classroom with consistent routines and positive guidance.
- Explicitly teach social-emotional skills: sharing, self-regulation, problem-solving and kindness.
- Design an intentional, beautiful classroom with natural and open-ended materials that invite exploration, independence and collaboration.

Assessment and reporting

- Use pedagogical documentation (observations, photos, transcribed conversations and children's work) alongside developmentally appropriate assessments to make learning visible, track progress and plan next steps.
- Maintain accurate records and complete progress reports on schedule.
- Identify early concerns and work with the principal and learning support team on interventions.

Families and colleagues

- Partner with families as active participants in their children's learning, sharing documentation and communicating regularly through conferences, newsletters and informal check-ins; help families new to school transition with confidence.
- Plan collaboratively with early childhood and first-grade colleagues to ensure smooth vertical alignment.
- Supervise and coordinate the work of any classroom assistant.
- Participate in faculty meetings, professional growth goals, school events and supervision duties.

Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education or a closely related field.
- Valid teaching certification or license.
- At least two years of successful teaching experience in kindergarten or early childhood (pre-K to grade 1).
- Native English fluency.

- Strong knowledge of early literacy and numeracy development.

Position Details

- **Reports to:** EC Coordinator
- **Status:** Full time
- **Contract length:** Two years
- **Salary:** Commensurate with experience, according to the official teacher salary schedule