

GET READY FOR KINDERGARTEN!

Welcome Teachers!

In this Digital Welcome Kit, you will find:

- A sample letter from Vera Ahiyya, The Tutu Teacher and author of the **Getting Ready** book series. You can use this as a model for the note you send home to families!
- A “Tips for Families” sheet. You can email or mail this to families.
- A photo prop. You can email or mail this to families.
- A printable kindergarten crown. Print and cut it out for students ahead of time. When they leave after the first day, send it home with them as a congratulations!



SAMPLE LETTER

Hi! I'm Ms. Ahiyya!

I love teaching!

Kindergarten will be a year of tremendous growth for your child. Our curriculum keeps us very busy. Your child will get hands-on opportunities to practicing reading, writing, math, social studies, and science. I can't wait to see what the year has in store for us.

I thought you would like to know a little bit about me! When I'm not busy at school, I like to cook, play with makeup, craft, and shop (my absolute favorite thing). This summer, I spent a lot of time writing a book! My husband's name is Lionell. He is from Canada. We both love to read!

I am originally from El Paso, Texas. I graduated from Austin College in 2005 with a BA in psychology and history. I stayed for one more year to complete my master's in education. This is my fifteenth year teaching. It is my fourth year at this school, and I'm looking forward to a wonderful year!

I absolutely love being a kindergarten teacher. Each morning, I hope your child is as happy to come to school as I am.



Photo credit to Vera

FAVORITES

COLOR: Black and gold

SEASON: Fall—I just love apple and pumpkin treats

FOOD: Mexican and Chinese food

DRINK: Raspberry mocha from Starbucks

SONG: Any song by Adele

BOOK: *KINDergarten*—written by me!

SPORT: Basketball—go, Spurs, go!

TIPS FOR FAMILIES!

How to set your little one up for success this school year!

- Do you have a library card? If not, sign up for one! Check out a few books and read them to your child. Throughout the school year, I'll provide reading recommendations based on your child's interests and literacy achievements, and encourage you to read together everyday!
- Talk to your child about how they're feeling ahead of the first day of school. Whether it's nervous or excited, let them know feelings are normal and can change. Share with them about moments you've been nervous or excited, and how your feelings resolved.
- Ask them what questions they have about kindergarten. Write down their questions and answer the ones you can. If you don't know an answer, reach out to me, and I'll try my best to answer!
- Print out the first day of school sign. Take a photo with your child to make their first day a celebration!
- To prepare your child for the first day of school, read one of these stories together

Find your local public library at [usa.gov/libraries](https://www.usa.gov/libraries).

- In the weeks leading up to the first day of school, practice morning routines, and wake up your child at the same time they'll wake up for school.
- Talk about the importance of sleeping and eating healthy so we can have fun and productive school days.



Getting Ready for Kindergarten
by Vera Ahijya
illustrated by Debby Rahmalia



KINDERgarten
by Vera Ahijya
illustrated by Joey Chou



Look How Much I've Grown in KINDergarten
by Vera Ahijya
illustrated by Joey Chou

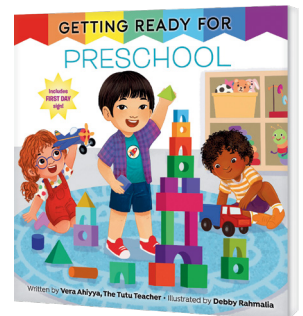
GETTING READY

Cut out the flag and tape it to the end of a wooden dowel or pencil.



FIRST DAY OF
KINDERGARTEN

FIRST DAY OF
KINDERGARTEN



CELEBRATE THE FIRST DAY OF KINDERGARTEN!

Assemble crowns for students!

Directions: Cut out both pieces of the crown. Bend the front part of the crown and back part of the crown toward each other. Secure with tape.



I'M A KINDERGARTNER!