

More About Types of Schools

What is a child care center?

This school is for children who are babies and up to 2 years old. These ages may also be included in a pre-school.

What is a preschool?

Preschools are for 3- to 5- year-old children. Preschools help children get ready for kindergarten. They will learn the alphabet. They will learn how to learn and play with other children.



The picture shows some children who go to the Children of the World Preschool. In this preschool, children from many countries learn to play and do activities together.

What is a kindergarten?

A kindergarten is for children who have reached age 5. They may not begin kindergarten before this age. In kindergarten, they will continue to learn the alphabet, to sound out words, to play, learn, listen and to write. They will also learn good classroom manners.

What is an elementary school?

Elementary school is for children from 6 to 11 years old. The school goes from grades 1 to 5. Children learn to read, spell, write sentences, do math, and many other things.

The picture (right) shows Shore Acres Elementary School.



What is an exceptional school?

Some exceptional schools are for elementary school age children who have physical and emotional learning handicaps. Other exceptional schools have programs for children who are very smart.

Middle schools and high schools have special classes for advanced or "gifted" learners.

What is a middle school?

A middle school is for children from about 11 to 14 years old. Middle schools include grades 6, 7, and 8. Here students learn many things, including basic math, science, music, and sports.

What is a high school?

A high school is for children from about 15 to 18 years old. Students attend grades 9, 10, 11, and 12 at high school. They will read many books and study hard. A high school helps students get ready for college and jobs.

What is a fundamental school?

A fundamental school is stricter than other schools. Parents and students must sign an agreement to participate in all homework and attend meetings at the school. This school is for elementary- and middle-school-aged children.

What is a magnet school?

A magnet school is for all grades in elementary, middle, and high school. It has special programs that focus on one specific area of learning, such as art, technology, medicine, and criminal justice. The schools are located within some regular public schools.

What are charter schools?

Charter schools are private schools that are run with public money. It is harder to get into a charter school. The class sizes are smaller, so teachers can work 1-on-1 with students. There are charter programs for children who are in grades 4, 5, and 6.

What is an adult school (adult education)?

Many adults go back to school. Some want to get a G.E.D. (high school diploma). Some just want to improve basic skills, like math. So high schools provide adult education classes in the evenings.

What is a vocational school?

A vocational school is a special school for adults, which teaches a technical job, such as machine work, automobile maintenance, and computer repair. Pinellas County has many vocational schools.

What is a college or university?

Colleges and universities are almost the same.

These schools are for adults. A student goes to

college to learn a career, such as teaching or engineering. There are many colleges in Pinellas County, such as St. Petersburg College, the University of South Florida, Eckerd College, and Stetson University's College of Law.



What is lifelong learning?

Lifelong learning means you can learn things all during your life. You can learn from other people. You can teach yourself. You can learn from libraries and museums. You can learn on the job and in the community.



The men in the picture (right) are working together at a library. One is a volunteer tutor. The other is learning English he needs at work. People learn about Florida plants (below, left) during a tour of the Florida Botanical Gardens. The children (below, right) are attending a summer nature camp.

