

Kindergarten and Elementary School Teachers

SOC: 25-2012 • Career Profile Report

■ Key Facts

\$62,310

Median Salary

29,800

Employment

-2.0%

Growth Rate

■ Requirements & Salary Range

Education: Bachelor's degree

■ Automation Risk Assessment

Low Risk - 10.0% probability of being automated in the next 10-20 years.

This job is relatively safe from automation due to its creative, social, or complex problem-solving requirements.

■■ Work-Life Balance

6.4/10 - Good work-life balance

■ Personality Fit (RIASEC)

Higher scores indicate better personality fit for this career type.

Realistic	3.8/10	Investigative	6.6/10
Artistic	7.6/10	Social	9.4/10
Enterprising	5.2/10	Conventional	6.0/10

■ Top Skills Required

Communication skills, Patience, Physical stamina, Resourcefulness

✓ Strengths

- High Demand
- Flexible Work
- Continuous Learning

■ Challenges

- Burnout Risk
- Rapid Technological Change

■ What They Do

Kindergarten and Elementary School Teachers instruct **children in basic subjects such as reading, writing, mathematics, and social skills**. They develop lesson plans, assess student progress, and foster a supportive learning environment. Their work is critical in early childhood and elementary education, laying the foundation for lifelong learning.

This career is well suited for individuals who enjoy teaching, guiding young students, and creating engaging learning experiences.

What Do Kindergarten and Elementary School Teachers Do?

These professionals develop curriculum, deliver instruction, and monitor student growth in foundational academic subjects.

Common responsibilities include:

- Creating lesson plans and educational materials
- Teaching reading, writing, math, science, and social studies
- Observing and assessing student learning and development
- Providing individual or small group support to students
- Maintaining classroom discipline and a positive learning environment
- Communicating with parents about student progress and needs
- Collaborating with other teachers and school staff

Key Areas of Elementary Education

Teachers may focus on subject instruction, classroom management, or student support:

- Core Academic Instruction: Teaching fundamental subjects and concepts
- Classroom Management: Maintaining a structured, safe, and engaging environment
- Student Assessment: Monitoring academic and social development
- Individualized Support: Assisting students with unique learning needs
- Parental and Community Communication: Engaging families in student learning

Skills and Abilities Needed

These professionals combine instructional, organizational, and interpersonal skills.

Core Professional Skills

Personal Qualities That Matter

Education and Career Pathway

This role typically requires formal education, certification, and classroom experience:

- Bachelor's Degree (minimum): Elementary education or a related field
- Teacher Preparation Program: Coursework and practical training in teaching methods
- Student Teaching Internship: Supervised classroom experience
- State Licensure or Certification: Required to teach in public schools
- Continuing Education: Professional development in teaching techniques, curriculum updates, and educational technology

Where Do Kindergarten and Elementary School Teachers Work?

They are employed in organizations providing early and primary education:

- Public and Private Elementary Schools
- Preschools with Kindergarten Programs
- Charter and Alternative Schools

- Community and Education Centers
- Educational Nonprofits and Tutoring Programs

Work environments include classrooms, school facilities, and learning resource areas.

Is This Career Difficult?

This career requires patience, creativity, and organizational skills. Teachers must manage diverse classrooms, meet curriculum standards, and adapt instruction to individual student needs.

Who Should Consider This Career?

This career may be a strong fit if you:

- Enjoy teaching young children and fostering learning
- Are patient, creative, and communicative
- Have strong organizational and problem-solving skills
- Can adapt to diverse student needs and classroom situations
- Want a career contributing to early education and student development

How to Prepare Early

- Take courses in education, child development, and foundational subjects
- Volunteer or intern in schools or educational programs
- Develop classroom management, communication, and instructional skills
- Explore undergraduate and teacher preparation programs
- Gain experience in tutoring, mentoring, or supervised teaching

Kindergarten and elementary school teachers provide foundational education, nurturing student growth and preparing children for lifelong learning and academic success.

*Generated by StartRight • Data from U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics & O*NET*

Source: <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/education-training-and-library/kindergarten-and-elementary-school-teachers.htm>