



# ALLEGHENY LUTHERAN SOCIAL MINISTRIES

*We Touch Lives*



**pennsylvania**  
PRE-K COUNTS

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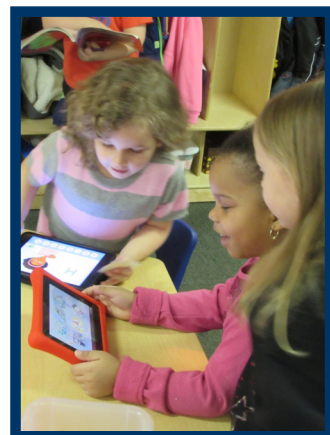


Pre-K Counts programs, established by the Pennsylvania Department of Education, help prepare children for kindergarten by learning reading and math skills, as well as paying attention, following directions and getting along with others. Pre-kindergarten gives children a chance to learn, become excited about school, and be better students, and also helps both children and parents adjust to pre-kindergarten and smoothly move on to kindergarten.

Pre-K Counts is designed for children who are between age 3 and until the age of entry for kindergarten and whose families are income-eligible or who have special needs issues. Our center is a Keystone STARS level 3 quality program, and wrap-around child care services are available on-site. Pre-K Counts programs are currently located in *Bedford, Johnstown (Westmont) and Saxton.*

### WHAT IS PRE-K COUNTS?

- Small class sizes
- One-on-one attention
- Kindergarten preparedness
- Structured setting and planned activities
- Teaches language and literacy
- Promotes mathematical thinking skills
- Fosters a love for learning
- Establishes social and emotional readiness
- Encourages family engagement and participation
- Builds independence and self-reliance
- Fosters growth academically and socially



### WHAT CAN I EXPECT FROM PRE-K CLASSROOMS?

- Teachers with the education and expertise to teach young children.
- Curriculum that will help children grow academically and socially.
- Regular review of children's progress.
- Teaching methods and learning activities that are selected for what is best for each child's individual needs.
- Help children and families to adjust to preschool and prepare to smoothly transition to kindergarten.
- Small class size for each child to have plenty of one-on-one time with the teachers.
- Use of themes when planning activities that build on the interests of the child.
- Provide opportunities for social interaction and bonding so children can establish social confidence and learn classroom etiquette.
- Help provided to children with setting, pursuing and achieving goals.

