

SOFT LANDING

A joyful bridge from home to school

MISSION VIEW • 2026-27

TK-GRADE 5



What is Soft Landing?

A guaranteed TK–5 bridge between home and school.

1

ARRIVE + CONNECT

Students are welcomed into a safe, predictable classroom.

2

15 MINUTES OF INTENTIONAL PLAY

Choice-based, structured play builds relationships and practices self-regulation.

3

SEL ROUTINE

Question of the Day, PurposeFull People Morning Meeting, and community-building.

4

READY TO LEARN

Students move into academics feeling known, settled, and connected.

WHY IT MATTERS

Play gives children repeated practice with attention, working memory, self-control, cooperation, and flexible thinking—skills that support learning.

Soft Start is much more than a fun activity for young children. They are a powerful learning tool that can help children become excited about coming to school while building the foundational skills they need for long-term academic and social success.

“ For many young children, the opportunity to explore, create, build, and solve problems is a reason to look forward to coming to school. Soft Start gives children hands-on experiences where they can make choices, follow their curiosity, and experience the satisfaction of creating something of their own. When children associate school with meaningful, engaging experiences, they are more likely to feel connected to their classroom and excited to be there.

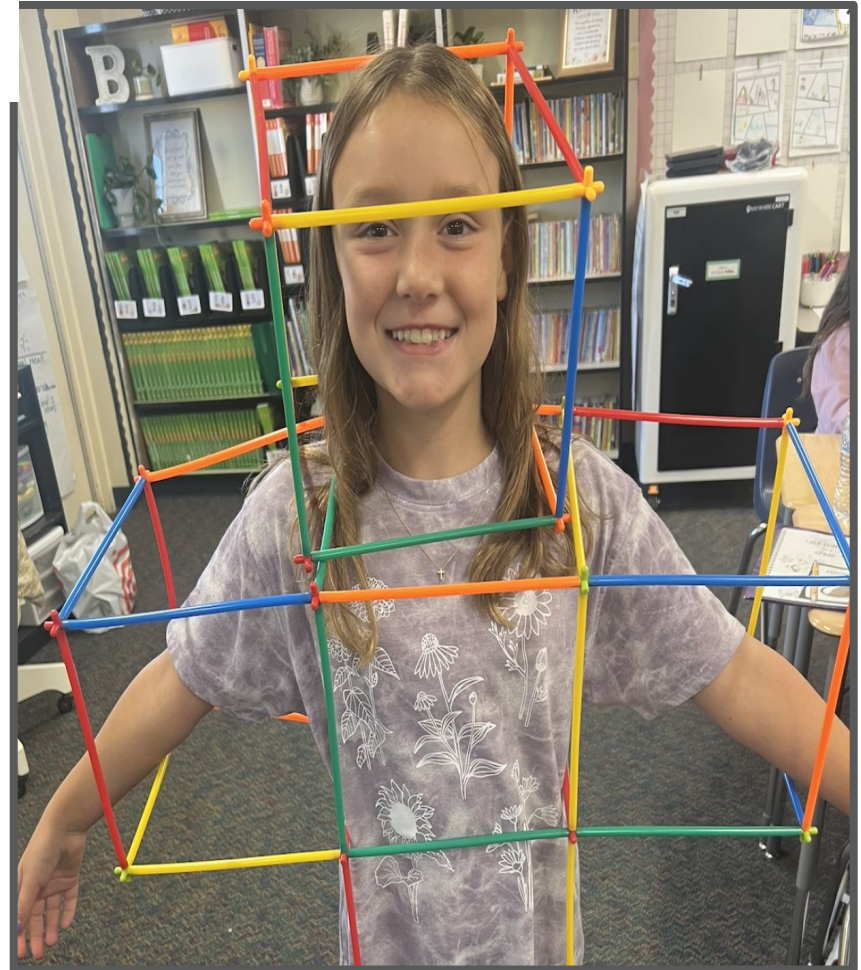
- Tammy Savage & Abby Savage, TK



Students enter with something joyful to anticipate.

“ At the beginning of the school day, my 4th graders can engage in structured games and play that provide a gentle, controlled arrival that help them transition into the classroom community. During Soft Landing, I can reinforce positive behaviors, model respect, and set clear expectations in a relaxed and supportive setting. My students have opportunities to practice sharing, respecting boundaries, communicating with others, and taking responsibility for their choices. This intentional time helps them build social skills while creating a calm, positive start to the school day.

- Janet McKee, Grade 4



Play creates a natural moment for teachers to connect.

“ Soft Landing has been especially helpful for some of our more anxious students. It eases the transition from home to school, which can be difficult for some students. Due to Soft Landing, I have seen fewer students in the counseling office who are anxious at the start of the school day because their classroom is more inviting and engaging.

- Justin Neilson, Counselor



Children practice sharing, turn-taking, and problem-solving.

“

Soft Start allows us to build relationship with students and work on social skills during play. This relaxed environment also allows students to open up and participate in conversations, providing us to learn about our students.

- Jessica Watson, SPED



We notice strengths that may not appear during a lesson.

“

It easier to start school this way.
In third grade we just got
started with math and that was
hard.

- Student, Grade 4



DAY 9

The verdict is already in.

Students and staff love, enjoy, and appreciate this opportunity to begin each day together.

LOVE

a joyful reason to arrive

ENJOY

time to play and connect

APPRECIATE

a calm, caring start

Soft Landing is how Mission View says: You belong here—and we are glad you came.