

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

1. What is 'Start Small Dream Big'?

The 'Start Small Dream Big' movement was initiated by the Early Childhood Development Agency (ECDA) in 2015 to encourage preschools to create platforms for children to give back to the community. It was first launched as part of SG50 and the 15th anniversary of President's Challenge, as an annual series of fund-raising and volunteer activities. Participating preschools design and implement community service projects for children over a period of six months.

2. What are the objectives of 'Start Small Dream Big'?

The movement aspires to nurture each child holistically, including character building, so that they can succeed individually in life and become responsible citizens who care about those around them. Through 'Start Small Dream Big', young children in preschools are encouraged to use their own resources to give back to society, and in the process, instil the spirit of giving and good values such as care for others, humility, kindness and compassion.

3. How are preschools conducting their 'Start Small Dream Big' projects considering the COVID-19 situation?

Preschools participating in 'Start Small Dream Big' are advised to conduct their projects in accordance with ECDA's latest advisory on safe management measures. These include ensuring safe distance between groups of children for outdoor activities, restriction of visitors in preschools, and ensuring no mixing of children across cohorts. Partners may use online communication tools to give talks or conduct programmes for preschools. Centre-wide events involving large groups of parents or the public are not allowed. Virtual engagements with beneficiary centres are encouraged in lieu of physical visits.

4. How many children have participated in 'Start Small Dream Big' over the years?

Year	Number of SSDB pre-schools	Number of SSDB children
2015	150	8,000
2016	300	20,000
2017	550	36,000
2018	670	39,000

Year	Number of SSDB pre-schools	Number of SSDB children
2019	820	49,000
2020	950	53,000
2021	1,050	71,000
2022	1,090	75,000

5. What is the age range of children who participate in ‘Start Small Dream Big’ and what is expected of the children?

The children are mainly from the K1 and K2 levels (i.e. 5-6 years old). The preschools are encouraged to involve and guide the children in developing, planning and implementing the community projects. Under the guidance of teachers, the children play an active role in deciding who they want to help and what they want to do. Parents are strongly encouraged to be involved in supporting their child’s community projects.

6. What are some of the community projects that preschools will be carrying out for ‘Start Small Dream Big’ this year?

Preschools are encouraged to reach out to families and the community, in accordance with safe management measures. Some examples of the community projects are: expressing care and appreciation for their family members; collecting and packing donations for families in need; writing cards or sending letters to sick friends at hospitals and hospices; and showing appreciation to healthcare and other front-line or community workers through kind acts. Other projects include: connecting with the elderly at senior or nursing homes through digital means; befriending persons with disabilities and special needs through online platforms; virtual fundraising for the less fortunate; caring for the environment through gardening, recycling efforts, beach clean-ups and water conservation; caring for animals through responsible pet ownership and raising awareness on marine and wildlife conservation; and promoting good hygiene or a healthy lifestyle to their families and residents in the neighbourhood.

7. What kind of support does ECDA provide to the participating preschools?

ECDA provides a resource package to all participating preschools. The resource package includes bucket hats, Educator’s Guides, and reflection journals. E-resources such as pledge cards, posters and banners are also provided to preschools. Furthermore, ECDA links preschools to community

partners and provides platforms for preschools to share best practices. All these can be found on the 'Start Small Dream Big' portal at <http://go.gov.sg/ssdb2022-resources>.

8. How was 'Start Small Dream Big' launched this year?

Minister for Family and Social Development, Mr Masagos Zulkifli, launched this year's 'Start Small Dream Big' on 25 April 2022 (Monday), at Bright Kids School House @ Punggol Blk 173D. Participating preschools will carry out their project launches with children at their own premises, and share photos or videos through the 'Start Small Dream Big' portal, www.startsmalldreambig.sg. Preschools will also document their projects over a period of six months (April to September) on this portal.

9. Which community and government agencies are ECDA partnering with in 2022 for 'Start Small Dream Big'?

A total of 25 partners are supporting 'Start Small Dream Big' this year. Among them are Community Chest, Agency for Integrated Care, Singapore Kindness Movement, Preschool Market, National Parks Board, Gardens by the Bay, Singapore Food Agency, the Singapore Discovery Centre and Wildlife Reserves Singapore. This year, new partner organisations on board are Centre for Fathering and Singapore Chinese Cultural Centre. More information on centres' projects and partners is available at <http://www.startsmalldreambig.sg>.

10. Are there new resource materials available for preschools this year?

The Centre for Fathering has developed an e-resource for 'Start Small Dream Big' entitled "My Grandfather's Story". It is intended for fathers to help their children get to know their grandfather better through storytelling and creation of a simple photo journal. This provides an opportunity for the children to develop their identity, form bonds with their extended family and learn life lessons. The e-resource is available at <https://go.gov.sg/ssdb-mygrandfathersstory>.