

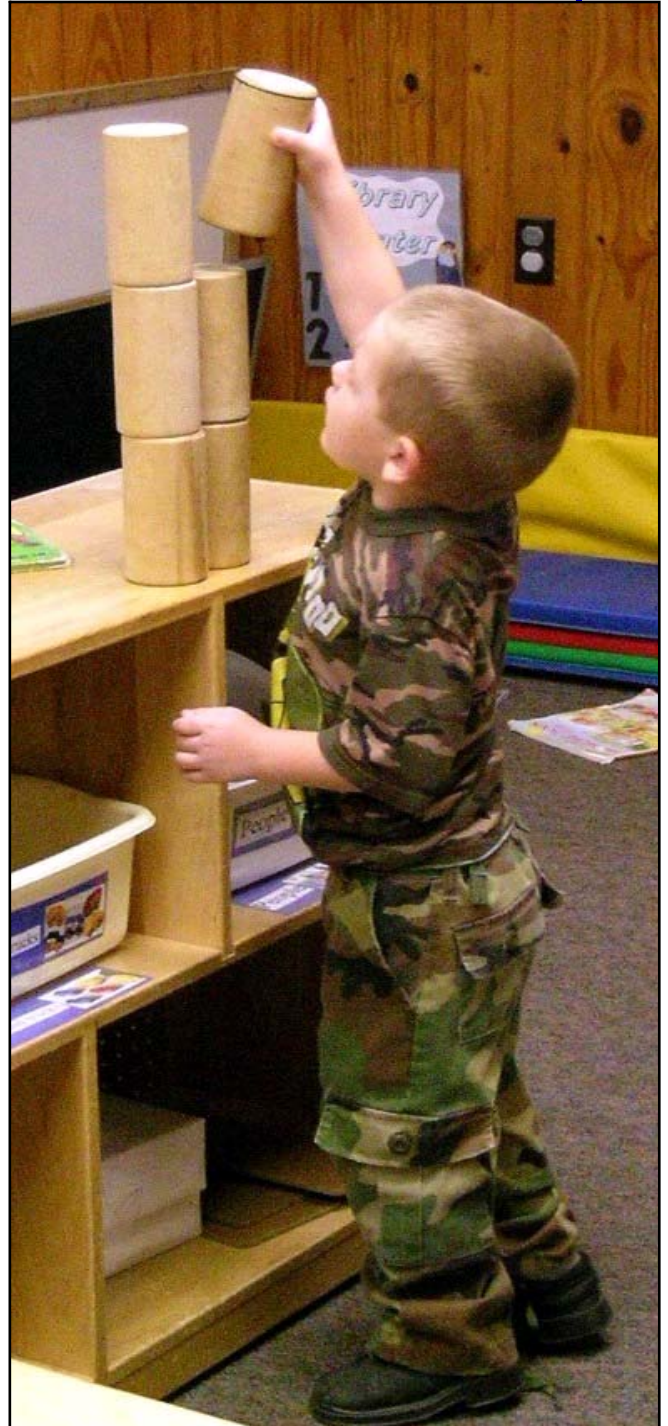


Sequatchie Valley Head Start ...

... serves nearly 400 children and their families from across five counties straddling 1,867 square miles at the tail end of the Appalachian mountains. From its management headquarters in South Pittsburg in Marion County, the agency operates 23 classrooms, including seven classrooms in Marion County, four in Grundy County, three in Sequatchie County, three in Bledsoe County, and six in Rhea County. The agency employs more than 100 people.

Sequatchie Valley Head Start provides the region's premiere pre-school experience, laying the foundations for academic *and* social success in kindergarten. In addition, this Head Start program channels resources from across the state and nation to support our families' efforts to make their lives better. Nationally standardized tests demonstrate that, as a group, Sequatchie Valley Head Start children always significantly outperform other pre-school children across the nation — testimony to this agency's successful operations stretching back 24 years to 1985. All classrooms are nationally accredited and all hold the state's highest quality rating.

Head Start is the most successful, longest-running, national school readiness program in the United States. The program has benefited more than 25 million pre-school aged children during the 44 years since it was begun in 1965. Sequatchie Valley Planning and Development Agency has provided Head Start services in the region for 22 years. The program provides comprehensive education, health, nutrition, and parent involvement services to high-risk children and their families.





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