

Kindergarten Readiness

You are your child's first teacher. Children are more successful when parents and teachers work together to provide the environment and motivation that is needed to learn.

Before coming to kindergarten, most children can...

- Listen to stories without interrupting
- Recognize authority and follow rules
- Manage bathroom needs independently
- Talk in complete sentences
- Cut with scissors
- Trace and name basic shapes
- Share with others
- Separate from parents without becoming upset
- Identify some alphabet letters
- Sort objects by size, shape, or color
- Count to 10
- Write and recognize their first name

At home continue to...

- Make sure your child is eating a balanced diet
- Make sure your child is getting plenty of sleep (11+ hours)
- As the time for school to begin approaches...change your routine to match the school schedule
- Regular check-ups with pediatrician
- Talk about school in positive terms
- Encourage your child to become independent and try new things

Chronological age is not the only factor in kindergarten readiness. Your child should be physically, emotionally, socially, and mentally ready for kindergarten.

Social Skills

- Works cooperatively (listens to others, shares, and takes turns)
- Respects the rights, property, and feelings of others
- Interacts appropriately with adults and peers
- Demonstrates an interest in learning
- Responsive to adult/teacher in charge

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Fine Motor Development

- Holds and uses crayons, markers, pens and pencils correctly
- Cuts with scissors
- Tries to zipper, button, snap, tie
- Can open, use, and close a glue stick

Language Skills

- Talks in complete sentences
- Regulates emotions and articulates feelings in words
- Recites some common nursery rhymes and songs
- Follows two and three step oral directions
- Tells or retells stories and/or everyday experiences

Reading Readiness

- Looks at books or pictures on their own
- Recognizes many capital and lowercase letters
- Recognizes some letter sounds
- Recognizes letters in own name
- Relates stories to personal experiences
- Recognized words that rhyme
- Listens to a story without interrupting (15 minutes)

Self-Help Skills

- Gets coat on and off and hangs it up
- Tends to bathroom needs independently and washes hands
- Blows nose and covers mouth when coughing
- Fastens and unfasten simple buttons and snaps
- Eats and works neatly and cleans up after self
- Follows a routine and schedule for personal hygiene, eating meals and going to bed

Writing Skills

- Writes own name with one capital letter and the remaining in lowercase
- Draws a recognizable picture
- Can legibly print some letters, numbers, and shapes

Math Concepts

- Recognizes most numbers 1 – 10
- Orally counts from 1-10
- Points and counts up to at least 5 objects
- Distinguishes numbers from letters and understands that numbers relate to quantity
- Identifies some shapes by name
- Identifies colors