

Kindergarten Readiness

Quality early childhood experiences, whether provided by family or a formal program, increase a child's ability to succeed in Kindergarten. School readiness efforts support the development of skills, knowledge, and health. The goal is for every child to develop a lifelong love of learning.

Does your child have these social skills?

- ⇒ Respects self, others, and property
- ⇒ Expresses feelings and emotions with words
- ⇒ Understands and demonstrates taking turns
- ⇒ Attends to a task for short periods of time
- ⇒ Accepts guidance
- ⇒ Manages transitions and adapts to changes
- ⇒ Shows confidence and independence in choices
- ⇒ Engages in play experiences with peers

Does your child have these self-help skills?

- ⇒ Takes care of all toileting needs, including hand washing
- ⇒ Feeds self independently using utensils
- ⇒ Zips and buttons clothes and jackets
- ⇒ Ties or velcros shoes
- ⇒ Blows nose independently
- ⇒ Shows basic safety knowledge
- ⇒ Plays with respect to self and/or peers' personal space

Does your child have these fine and gross motor skills?

- ⇒ Uses writing tools
- ⇒ Creates letters, shapes, symbols, and words with support
- ⇒ Opens packages and containers (lunchbox)
- ⇒ Runs, stops, hops, gallops, skips, and changes direction
- ⇒ Coordinates movements to perform activities

How can you help your child at home?

- ⇒ Read to child
- ⇒ Encourage conversations with adults and peers
- ⇒ Demonstrate and practice understanding of nutritious foods
- ⇒ Practice healthy sleep routines
- ⇒ Create experiences (parks, playgrounds, libraries, museums, or zoos)
- ⇒ Engage with child (car games, grocery lists, pretend play, digital apps)
- ⇒ Praise child for effort and curiosity about learning and trying new things

What is Early Literacy?

- ⇒ Knows letters and sounds are used to make words
- ⇒ Uses complex sentences
- ⇒ Writes name
- ⇒ Responds to given name
- ⇒ Notices letters in his/her name, additional letters or sounds, and symbols (stores, restaurants, etc.)
- ⇒ Understands how to open a book and turn pages
- ⇒ Rhymes to create new words
- ⇒ Understands and follows oral directions
- ⇒ Retells familiar stories



The MORE that you READ, the MORE things you will KNOW. The MORE that you LEARN, the more PLACES you'll GO.

—Dr. Seuss

