

Kindergarten Readiness Checklist

Personal and Social Development

- Know first and last name
- Use words to solve problems and conflicts
- Articulate feelings in words
- Follow simple direction
- Interact appropriately with adults and peers
- Recognize authority figures
- Seek help when needed
- Show curiosity and eagerness
- Work cooperatively
- Show self-control
- Show accountability and respect for others
- Manage transitions from one activity to the next
- Manage bathroom needs
- Button shirts, pants, coats and zip zippers

Gross Motor Skills

- Pedal and steer a tricycle
- Bounce, kick, throw, catch a ball
- Show some balance (1 foot)
- Participate in outdoor activities like running, jumping, and climbing

Fine Motor Skills

- Complete basic puzzle
- Hold and use crayons, markers, pens, and pencils correctly
- Build using blocks
- Cut with scissors (straight lines, basic shapes, along models)
- Trace basic shapes

Reasoning and Concept Development

- Match and group objects according to size shape or color
- Understand concepts of in/out, under/over, on/off, front/back
- Have some concept of time (past, present, future, yesterday, tomorrow, today)

Language Skills

- Recite the alphabet
- Talk in 5-8 word sentences
- Tell or retell stories and everyday experiences
- Use descriptive language
- Express ideas so others can understand
- Look at books and pictures on their own
- Listens with interest to stories being read to them
- Can sequence 3 pictures to tell a logical story
- Recognize rhyming words
- Recognize uppercase and lowercase letters and match them to each other
- Describe characters' actions and emotions in a story
- Try to write, scribble or draw
- Attempt to write own name and can recognize it in print
- Trace individual letters

Mathematical Concepts

- Recognize simple patterns and mimic or continue them
- Arrange objects in size order (small to big, big to small)
- Group objects according to features
- Count to 20
- Recognize numerals 1-10
- Understand and effectively use comparative words (more than or less than, small/large, short/tall, few/many, ect..)
- Identify and draw basic shapes

The Arts

- Recognize and name basic colors
- Draw simple objects
- Make up simple stories with objects (make believe)
- Show interest in role play
- Participate in group musical activities

Science

- Observes and asks questions about their environment
- Basic animal recognition
- Awareness of objects in the sky, with simple recognition (sun, moon, clouds, and lightning)

Every child is different, and we all know they learn differently. No need to throw yourself into a panic if your little scholar can't count to 20 or tie their own shoes yet. Just go through the list, see where your child stands and you'll see what needs work. Maybe they're excellent at fine motor skills and numbers but need work on art and the alphabet. It will give you a general idea of what you need to focus on in the coming months. Also, there is a good chance your child already has a grasp on a lot of these concepts, learned through life lessons and play, so don't be discouraged by this list! You will likely be surprised to see you only have a few things to work on.

