

Kindergarten Readiness

Many parents ask what their child needs to know before Kindergarten. It is really a combination of skills, behaviors and attitudes that determines each child's readiness for Kindergarten. The following list includes some of the traits that are important for a successful transition to Kindergarten. Before entering Kindergarten, my child is able to:

Language Skills

- Speak in complete sentences and is understood by others most of the time
- Use words to express needs and wants
- Understand two-step directions
(listens & remembers what he/she is asked to do independently)
- Ask for help when necessary

Social/ Emotional Skills

- Separate from a parent/caregiver without becoming overly upset
- Interact with other children and adults
- Attempt to solve simple problems independently
- Demonstrate self-control (able to identify & work through emotions)
- Take turns with others and shares toys/materials
- Respect others and materials

Self-Care Skills

- Use the bathroom and wash up independently
- Get dressed on their own (with some assistance on jacket zippers or shoelaces)
- Clean up after self

Fine Motor Skills

- Hold a pencil or crayon appropriately
- Hold and use scissors appropriately
- Draw recognizable shapes and figures
- Write their name legibly
- Use glue stick and can take a cap on/off

Reading Skills

- Enjoy listening to stories
- Recognize own name in print (identifies name on mailbox, etc.)
- Recite the alphabet
- Identify most of the uppercase and lowercase letters
- Identify most of the letter sounds

Math Skills

- Recognize numbers 1-10
- Count from 1-10 without skipping numbers
- Match a number to a group of five or fewer items ("I see three cats")
- Recognize basic shapes

If your child does not demonstrate readiness in several area, please consider whether or not another year of growth and maturity may increase the level of future success for entering Kindergarten. Please contact our school office if you have any questions.