

# JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN CHECKLIST

## 13 Things to Look for in a Pre-K Program

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### 1. WARM RELATIONSHIPS WITH TEACHERS

Do the teachers treat students and families with genuine kindness?

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### 2. RICH CONVERSATIONAL LANGUAGE

Do teachers engage in meaningful conversations with students?

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### 3. TEACHERS AT KID LEVEL

Do teachers meet children at eye level?

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### 4. VISIBLE LEARNING

Do you see a variety of opportunities for students to learn (social situations, learning materials, explorative environment, etc.)?

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### 5. OPPORTUNITIES FOR EXPLORATION

Are materials available for students to explore using a hands-on approach?





## **A MIX OF SMALL GROUP AND DIRECT INSTRUCTION**

Do teachers meet one-on-one and with small groups for specific skills, as well as provide instruction in a whole group setting?



## **INTEGRATION FOR DEEPER LEARNING**

Are elements of music, art, science, technology, and movement incorporated into learning?



## **LEARNING MATERIALS ARE EASILY ACCESSIBLE BY CHILDREN**

Can students reach, open, and access materials?



## **STRONG SENSE OF COMMUNITY**

Do you observe partnerships between the teacher and students? Are there strong relationships among the teacher and parents?



## **DISPLAY OF AUTHENTIC WORK**

Does the work displayed look like the children created it? It shouldn't all be teacher-guided, cookie cutter pieces.



## **FOSTERED INDEPENDENCE**

Are students supported and encouraged in their growth of independence and autonomy?



## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR FACULTY**

Are teachers encouraged and empowered to grow within the profession?



## **OUTDOOR EDUCATION**

Do students spend time outside intentionally exploring and learning about their natural surroundings?

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## **NOTES**