



**Is my child
ready for
kindergarten?**

Eligibility

- ▶ Birthday must be on or before September 1, 2016...there are no exceptions
- ▶ Must reside within Tolman's boundaries, or have an approved variance to attend
- ▶ Register with appropriate materials with the front office (birth certificate, proof of residency, etc)
- ▶ Have required vaccinations—must be done before school starts

Transition

1

Commitment...you are committing to have your child here, on time, ready to learn every day (see attendance handout)

2

Transitional objects and behaviors, for example: thumbsucking, blankets, stuffies or other toys are not permitted. Break habits through the summer.

3

Have you left your child with another authority figure for a length of time? How did they do? Playdates are great for this!

4

Bathroom skills have to be 100% independent...including snaps, zips, buttons (**and wiping!**)

Fine Motor Skills

Holds pencils, crayons, scissors, etc. correctly

Writes and recognizes his/her first name, preferably with one capital at the beginning and the rest lowercase

Turn the pages of a book

Use scissors to cut straight and curved lines

Monkey bars and rolling playdough are great for strengthening the palms of the hand...muscles that are needed for writing!

Social Skills/Emotional Regulation

Playdates!! To other homes or the park...observe from a distance and see if they can resolve a simple conflict.

Separates from parent or guardian without undue anxiety.

Can they recover from disappointment?

Patience=waiting in a calm way

Do they wait for you to finish a conversation instead of interrupting? This is a necessary skill.

Is willing to try new things.

Literacy Skills

- ▶ Listens attentively and responds to stories and books
- ▶ Start with five minutes and work all the way up to fifteen
- ▶ Speaks clearly enough to be understood by others
- ▶ Reads or is read to on a daily basis
 - ▶ Reading every day will give your child the biggest boost in preparation, better than any program out there
 - ▶ Remember, "there is no app to replace your lap"!
- ▶ Recent studies have shown that if your child reads 5 books a day, they will have exposure to more than ONE MILLION more words by the beginning of Kindergarten