

Social and Emotional Skills

Most kindergarteners should be able to:

- Follow classroom routines.
- Play cooperatively with others.
- Label and express feelings and emotions.
- Try new activities willingly.
- Stand up for themselves but know that bullying and violence are wrong.
- Wait fairly patiently for a turn or to speak.
- Take care of personal needs such as toilet, hand washing, clothing.
- Pay attention to a story or activity for ten minutes.



Try this!

- * Give your child chances to play with others. Notice how he gets along.
- * Explain consequences of good and bad behavior.
- * Be reasonable and loving, but follow through.
- * Encourage children to try different activities and games. Arrange outings to the library, zoo, park or museum.
- * Talk about what you see.
- * Play games that require taking turns and paying attention, such as children's board games with easy-to-follow instructions.
- * Encourage children to talk about feelings. Share books that explore emotions.

General Knowledge and Motor Skills

Most kindergarteners should be able to:

- Identify body parts, such as head, toe, elbow.
- Draw a vertical and horizontal line.
- Cut paper with blunt scissors. Hold a pencil correctly.
- Copy letters and shapes, such as circles and squares.

Try this!

- * Give many chances for your child to draw and print using markers, crayons and pencils. Keep lots of paper handy too.
- * Provide activities that build skills for small muscles in the hands, such as cutting out shapes with scissors, stringing beads, and play-doh.
- * Use building blocks to show form, color and groups.
- * Talk about the world and things in it, like spring comes before summer.

For information visit www.ebnet.org/kindergarten or call (732)613-6763

Kindergarten! ... here I come!



World Class, Full Day Kindergarten



Ready...Set...GO!

What You Can Do to Ensure Your Child's Readiness

Excellence in Academics, Athletics and the Arts

You Can Help your Child Succeed in Kindergarten

Ready?

Research shows that language development (speaking and listening) during early childhood is important for success in school. Children don't need to know how to read before kindergarten, but there are some pre-requisite skills that will help to ensure their readiness. Children love repetition and hearing the same sounds and stories over and over. This builds strong pathways in their brains to help learning.

You can help with two main activities, talking to your child and reading aloud. Children who hear a variety of words from adults recognize and understand important concepts when they begin to read.

Set?

Preschoolers are learning about letters and sounds, pictures and print. When you read to children, you teach them how letters and words work, how to hold a book, turn pages, listen and gain meaning from the written word. At this age, children also develop a basic understanding of numbers, can match and label shapes, identify colors and understand spatial concepts.

Go!

Most children entering kindergarten can perform the tasks listed in the following sections at least sometimes. Your child's development may be a little faster or a little slower in a certain area. Have patience, trust your judgment and don't be critical. If you make time for your child and have fun, the rest will follow.

Language and Reading

Most kindergarteners should be able to:

- State their names, home addresses, telephone numbers, and birthdays.
- Identify some labels and signs (like McDonald's, a stop sign, etc).
- Know some letters and make letter sound matches.
- Understand that writing carries a message.
- Enjoy listening to and talking about story books.
- Ask and answer questions related to the story.
- "Read" familiar books alone, often by memory, using picture cues.
- Understand that we read English from left to right, top to bottom.
- Speak clearly and understandably.

Try this!

- * Read aloud to your child daily. Ask questions about the story or guess what might happen. Use different voices for characters to make the reading interesting.
- * Choose books and activities that are fun for both of you. Look for simple concepts (letters, numbers, shapes, and colors).
- * Show your child many ways in which writing is used—signs, menus, lists, recipes, grocery store, street signs. Ask for help in finding letters and words.
- * Use games (for example, pretend to be a mail carrier) to teach the child his address and phone number. Play listening games with verbal clues and directions (I spy).
- * Help your child get a library card and visit the library regularly. Attend story times. Choose books and participate in activities.
- * Write or make up stories together. You can start a story, and your child can finish. Or take turns. If you write it down, have your child draw pictures for the story.
- * Sprinkle word games throughout your day that help your child hear differences in words—rhymes, names of things that start with the same letter, compound words.
- * Be a good example. Let children see you reading the newspaper, magazines, recipes, anything, as well as writing (a grocery list, letters, notes).

Numbers and Math

Most kindergarteners should be able to:

- Understand the ideas of numbers, days of the week.
- Group items according to form, color and use.
- Know basic colors and numbers up to twenty.

Try this!

- * Point out different shapes in your house, as you travel, or in a store.
- * Play counting games.
- * Count items in a set. For example, count how many forks are on the table at dinner.