

Tips to help your child get ready for Kindergarten!

- Speak clearly and use complete words. Model the speech you want your child to use.
- Visit the library and enjoy story time together.
- Play language games like rhyming or naming items that start with the same sound.
- Give your child simple responsibilities, such as setting the table or picking up toys.
- Look for letters and numbers in books, newspapers, signs, and billboards.
- Practice counting during everyday activities—blocks, cereal, game spaces, or utensils at mealtime.

***Be sure to complete the online registration process at www.bismarckschools.org**

CONTACT US

BPS Registrar
Central Administration Building
128 Soo Line Drive, Bismarck, ND

✉ registrar@bismarckschools.org

☎ (701) 323-4110



Gearing Up for Kindergarten

Start your child's kindergarten journey with confidence! The **Gearing Up for Kindergarten** program is designed for parents and their soon-to-be kindergartner to learn and grow together.

Parents will gain strategies to support language, social, emotional, and motor development, while children enjoy activities that build skills for a smooth transition to school.

Families can attend any of the four sessions offered at local schools.

Please RSVP a week before with the link or QR code.

Session 1 - What to Expect in Kindergarten

Sunrise - January 22 - 6:00-7:00 PM
Roosevelt - February 2 - 2:30-3:30 PM
Grimsrud - February 24 - 5:30-6:30 PM

Session 2 - Play, Talk and Learn

Sunrise - February 19 - 6:00-7:00 PM
Grimsrud - March 17 - 5:30-6:30 PM
Roosevelt - March 17 - 2:30-3:30 PM

Session 3 - Explore and Empower

Sunrise - March 19 - 6:00-7:00 PM
Roosevelt - April 13 - 2:30-3:30 PM
Grimsrud - April 14 - 5:30-6:30 PM

Session 4 - Friendships and Feelings

Sunrise - April 23 - 6:00-7:00 PM
Roosevelt - May 11 - 2:30-3:30 PM
Grimsrud - May 12 - 5:30-6:30 PM

[Registration Link](#)



BISMARCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Ready, Set, Kindergarten!

At BPS, we are committed to making the kindergarten transition smooth. This brochure offers helpful tips to prepare you and your child for the first day.

It's not a checklist, so please use it as a reference and celebrate your child's unique talents and strengths.



Ready?

Research shows that early speaking and listening skills are key to school success. Children don't need to read before kindergarten, but practicing language skills helps them get ready. Repetition—hearing the same sounds and stories—builds strong brain connections for learning. Local libraries are great resources, offering free books, activities, and advice.



Set...

Children learn through play, gaining knowledge by exploring and experimenting.

At the preschool age, they are curious about the world and enjoy asking questions and engaging in conversation. They begin to develop early literacy and math skills, such as recognizing letters, sounds, numbers and print concepts. Reading with your child supports their understanding of how books and language work.

Go!



Most children entering kindergarten can do many of the tasks listed in the following sections. Every child develops at their own pace—some faster, some slower. Be patient, trust your instincts, and avoid being too critical. With time, attention, and a positive attitude, your child will thrive.

Language & Reading

- Recognize and say their full name.
- Play with rhymes and beginning sounds.
- Name some letters and sounds.
- Say two to four words together to make a sentence.
- Listen to and talk about stories.
- Touch, hold and turn pages of a book.



Social & Emotional Skills



- Follow 2-3 step directions.
- Play well with others.
- Verbally express feelings and emotions.
- Ask an adult for help.
- Take care of personal needs such as toilet, hand washing and clothing.

Motor Skills

- Identify body parts, such as head, toe, elbow, etc.
- Hold and use a pencil or crayon.
- Write their name.
- Copy letters and shapes.
- Follow basic safety rules such as looking both ways before crossing the street.

Math Skills

- Count to 10.
- Recognize and name numbers 1-10.
- Recognize basic shapes and colors.
- Sort things by shape and color, size.
- Show "how many" up to 5.
- Touch and count objects up to 5.

