



Rising Junior Kindergarten Summer Tips

Developing Academic Skills in Preparation for Junior Kindergarten

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Here are the most common skills your child should know to help them feel confident and ready for their biggest adventure yet.

[A to Z Readiness JK/K](#)

Social Development and Self-Help Skills

- Uses restroom independently (buttoning/zippping pants, cleaning self, washing hands)
- Independently cares for personal belongings (school tools, crayons, scissors, etc.)
- Separates from parents without distress
- Recognizes and respects authority
- Demonstrates self-control
- Interacts and shares with other children
- Shows respect for classmates
- With guidance, cleans up after play
- Participates in an appropriate manner in both whole group and small group activities

Verbal Skills

- Speaks clearly; can be understood without context clues
- Speaks in complete sentences
- Uses appropriate volume when speaking
- Expresses and describes feelings appropriately
- Able to clearly communicate their needs

Ready for Learning

- Relies on words to express needs rather than actions
- Shows eagerness and curiosity as a learner
- Makes effort to complete tasks
- Seeks help with problems appropriately

Listening Skills and Cognitive Thinking

- Follows simple one-step instructions
- Begins to follow two step directions
- Is able to sit for short periods of time
- Sustains attention for short periods (5-10 minutes) during focused activities.
- Gradually increase attention span with practice and engaging activities.
- Can attend to short tasks independently
- Can understand simple stories
- Recognizes some letters and sounds
- Begins to identify rhyming words
- Begins to count to 10
- Begins to sort and classify object

Gross Motor Skills

- Runs, hops, balances
- Climbs a playground ladder
- Throws a ball with direction
- Catches ball with arms and body
- Bounces a ball
- Able to walk up and down steps

Fine Motor Skills

- Begins to use scissors correctly
- Begins to hold a pencil using correct position/pressure
- Begins to draw shapes: square, circle, rectangle, triangle
- Begins to button/ zip/ snap clothing
- Makes objects from playdough: snake, ball, pancake
- Uses eating utensils correctly

HELPFUL LINKS: Below are some resources and suggestions for you.

	<u>NC Kids Digital Library</u> https://nckids.overdrive.com/ Username: Library card number Provided by Charlotte Mecklenburg Library's ONE Access program which offers public library accounts for all students.
	<u>Book Wizard by Scholastic</u> http://www.scholastic.com/bookwizard/ Website or App - Use your own login. Search Scholastic Book Wizard for children's books from all publishers by reading level and grade levels. You can use the website to find good fit books when at home or the app on mobile devices (at the bookstore, library, etc).
	<u>Pebble Go</u> https://www.pebblego.com Sign in with code: charlottecs Password: books JK-3 database for reading and research.