

Kindergarten Readiness



The following developmental skills are a few indicators of a child's readiness for kindergarten. Think about the items listed below as they apply to your child to help you evaluate and determine how well your child is developing the skills necessary to be successful in kindergarten.

I Can:

- Recognize the letters of the alphabet, both uppercase and lowercase, out of order
- Identify some letter sounds
- Recognize my first name
- Write my first name starting with a capital letter
- Tell if two words rhyme
- Hold a book correctly and turn the pages
- Identify colors
- Recognize and name basic shapes: square, circle, triangle and rectangle
- Recognize and name numbers 1-10, even when they are out of order
- Count to 20
- Count 10 objects, pointing to each one as I count
- Sort items by size, color or shape

I Can:

- Hold a pencil or crayon
- Cut with scissors
- Take turns and share
- Sit quietly and listen
- Raise my hand and wait to be called on
- Follow simple directions
- Stand in line
- Put on my coat and zip it up
- Put on my backpack
- Hang my backpack on a hook
- Open any food containers in my lunch
- Drink from a drinking fountain
- Use the bathroom by myself (including zipping and buttoning pants and wiping independently)
- Wash my hands with soap
- Use a tissue to wipe/blow my nose
- Cough into my elbow

While there's no perfect formula that determines when children are truly ready for school, you can use the checklist to see how well your child is doing in acquiring the skills for kindergarten. Not all children will be able to do all of the items, so don't worry if your child is missing some of these skills. What teachers want to see on the first day of school are children who are healthy, mature, capable, and eager to learn. Your child's preschool teacher would also be able to provide you with feedback to help you determine your child's readiness for kindergarten.