

IS IT TIME FOR KINDERGARTEN, ALREADY?!

How can I tell if my child is ready?

Starting school can be an exciting, yet anxious, time for families. There are many factors to consider when determining if your child is ready for Kindergarten. These factors include maturity, motor skills, attention span, independence, and age. Kindergarten expectations have changed a lot over the years. By the end of Kindergarten, students will be reading, writing sentences, and computing addition and subtraction. A key factor to your child's successful start is his/her readiness for school. Consider these readiness skills below as you prepare for the upcoming school year:

Self-Care Skills

- Take care of toileting needs independently
- Zip, button and snap fasteners on clothes and jackets
- Take shoes off and on
- Open packages and containers
- Recognize first/last name (not a nickname)

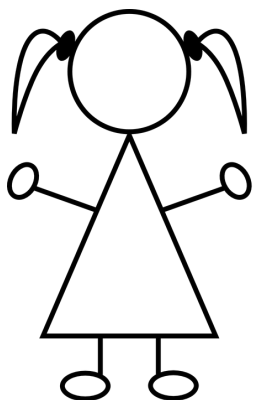
Fine Motor Skills

- Hold a pencil correctly
- Write first name
- Use scissors to cut basic shapes
- Trace lines and shapes
- Draw and color a picture

Social Skills

- Follow 2-step directions
- Sit/listen to a story for 5-10 minutes
- Play a game and accept losing
- Take turns while playing
- Share and work in a group
- Complete short tasks independently
- Control emotions without tantrums

Academic Skills



- Show natural curiosity
- Has confidence to attempt new tasks
- Has a basic knowledge of the alphabet (sing/say ABC's, know letters in his/her name)
- Understand basic math concepts (colors, shapes, sorting)
- Count to 10 and identify numbers 0-10
- Count up to 10 items in a group

