



Kindergarten Readiness

Is your child ready for kindergarten?

Starting kindergarten is such an exciting and important time! Parents naturally want their children to have a terrific first experience at school. There is so much to learn in kindergarten such as how to ride the bus, make new friends, function in a class of 20 to 25 students, go to different classes, find the right seat, and walk in line in the hall! While teachers do not expect children to come to school knowing everything already, the first couple of weeks will go much smoother if the child has a solid foundation.

READINESS CHECKLIST

- Recognize and name basic shapes
- Recognize and name numbers 1-10, even when they are out of order
- Count to 20
- Count 10 objects, pointing to each one while counting
- Say or sing the alphabet
- Recognize the letters of the alphabet, both uppercase and lowercase
- Identify colors in an 8 count crayon pack
- Recognize first name
- Write first name (only first letter uppercase)
- Sort items by size, color, or shape
- Hold a book and turn pages
- Tell if two words rhyme
- Identify some letter sounds
- Sit quietly and listen
- Follow simple directions
- Hold a pencil and crayon (thumb and forefinger holding the tip)
- Put on a backpack
- Raise hand and wait to be called on
- Take turns and share
- Use art materials (scissors, glue) with relative ease
- Separate from parents easily

HELP YOUR CHILD PREPARE

Go to interesting places such as the beach, park, zoo, airport, farm, or lake. Encourage your child to observe and talk about their experiences, as conversations with adults enrich a child's vocabulary and understanding of the world. Expose your child to many kinds of literature by reading to them daily. Praise and encourage your child's efforts and curiosity, knowing that from mistakes come learning and confidence.

BEST BOOKS FOR STARTING KINDERGARTEN

- *The Kissing Hand*
- *Clifford Goes to Kindergarten*
- *Miss Bindergarten Gets Ready for Kindergarten*
- *Ready for Kindergarten, Stinky Face?* (Scholastic Reader Level 1)
- *Pete the Cat: Rocking in My School Shoes*
- *Tool School*
- *Off the Kindergarten*
- *Noodles: I Love School!* (Scholastic Reader Level 1)
- *How Do Dinosaurs Go to School?*
- *The Night Before Kindergarten*
- *Peppa's School Day* (Peppa Pig: Level 1 Reader)