

Kindergarten Readiness Indicators

A kindergarten-ready child has a strong foundation in oral language, social emotional development, reading and writing, critical thinking, and physical development. Thoughtful and engaging early experiences, beginning at birth, strengthen these kindergarten readiness indicators.

Children who meet our community's age requirements for kindergarten are ready for school in many areas, but may need support in others. All children develop differently over time. It is normal for children to have strengths in some areas of growth and development and not in others.

The following indicators are **not** meant to **prevent** a child from entering kindergarten; they are simply to show **typical child development** at this age.

It is the responsibility of our schools to be ready for all of our children.

INDICATORS

Social Emotional

- ✚ Knows first and last name
- ✚ Identifies age
- ✚ Focuses on a task and persists on difficult tasks
- ✚ Demonstrates enough self-control to participate successfully in the classroom environment
- ✚ Shows awareness of peers through interaction, cooperation, and respect for property of others
- ✚ Adjusts to separation from parents/guardian
- ✚ Demonstrates enthusiasm and curiosity toward learning and is quick to recover from mistakes
- ✚ Acknowledges and names emotions in self and others

Language

Expressive Language

- ✚ Speaks in complete sentences
- ✚ Names everyday objects (pencil, window, table, sock)

Speaking and Listening - Receptive Language

- ✚ Demonstrates understanding of vocabulary related to position, direction, size and comparison (first/last, top/bottom, up/down, big/little, like/different)
- ✚ Understands and follows directions with at least two steps

Reading and Writing

Reading

- ✚ Identifies words that rhyme
- ✚ Demonstrates some letter/sound matching
- ✚ Recognizes at least 10 alphabet letter names
- ✚ Recognizes own name in print
- ✚ Retells a simple story with pictures (beginning, middle, end)

Concepts of Print

- ✚ Holds book right side up
- ✚ Identifies book's beginning and ending
- ✚ Words are read from left to right and top to bottom

Writing

- ✚ Attempts to write letters in own name
- ✚ Uses symbols to draw or express ideas

Thinking Skills

Classification

- ✚ Classifies objects by physical features (shape, color, size)
- ✚ Organizes objects conceptually (things that go together)
- ✚ Identifies at least 3 shapes.
- ✚ Identifies at least 5 colors.
- ✚ Completes simple puzzles (up to 4 pieces)

Sequencing

- ✚ Recognizes, extends or repeats a pattern sequence
- ✚ Counts in sequence to 10
- ✚ Demonstrates concept of 5 (knows more or less, count 5 objects, arranges numerals in order, matches numbers with 5 objects, identifies numbers 0-5).

Reasoning & Problem Solving

- ✚ Seeks multiple solutions to a question, task or problem
- ✚ Recognizes cause and effect relationships
- ✚ Classifies, compares, and contrasts objects, events, and experiences
- ✚ Uses past knowledge to build new knowledge

Physical Development

- ✚ Demonstrates fine motor skills using writing/drawing tools and scissors with control and intention
- ✚ Demonstrates independence in personal care – dressing, toileting, feeding, hygiene