Kindergarten Readiness

Quality early childhood experiences, whether provided by family or a formal program, increase a child’s ability to succeed in Kindergarten. School readiness efforts support the development of skills, knowledge, and health. The goal is for every child to develop a lifelong love of learning.

Does your child have these self-help skills?
⇒ Respects self, others, and property
⇒ Expresses feelings and emotions with words
⇒ Understands and demonstrates taking turns
⇒ Attends to a task for short periods of time

Does your child have these social skills?
⇒ Accepts guidance
⇒ Manages transitions and adapts to changes
⇒ Shows confidence and independence in choices
⇒ Engages in play experiences with peers

Does your child have these self-help skills?
⇒ Takes care of all toileting needs, including hand washing
⇒ Feeds self independently using utensils
⇒ Zips and buttons clothes and jackets
⇒ Ties or velcros shoes
⇒ Blows nose independently
⇒ Shows basic safety knowledge
⇒ Plays with respect to self and/or peers’ personal space

Does your child have these fine and gross motor skills?
⇒ Uses writing tools
⇒ Creates letters, shapes, symbols, and words with support
⇒ Opens packages and containers (lunchbox)
⇒ Runs, stops, hops, gallops, skips, and changes direction
⇒ Coordinates movements to perform activities

How can you help your child at home?
⇒ Read to child
⇒ Encourage conversations with adults and peers
⇒ Demonstrate and practice understanding of nutritious foods
⇒ Practice healthy sleep routines
⇒ Create experiences (parks, playgrounds, libraries, museums, or zoos)
⇒ Engage with child (car games, grocery lists, pretend play, digital apps)
⇒ Praise child for effort and curiosity about learning and trying new things

What is Early Literacy?
⇒ Knows letters and sounds are used to make words
⇒ Uses complex sentences
⇒ Writes name
⇒ Responds to given name
⇒ Notices letters in his/her name, additional letters or sounds, and symbols (stores, restaurants, etc.)
⇒ Understands how to open a book and turn pages
⇒ Rhymes to create new words
⇒ Understands and follows oral directions
⇒ Retells familiar stories

The MORE that you READ, the MORE things you will KNOW. The MORE that you LEARN, the more PLACES you’ll GO.

–Dr. Seuss