

Preparing a Child for Kindergarten

Desirable Social and Emotional Skills: Can Your Child---

- Share, take turns, play with others, and participate in group activities
- Listen quietly, and pay attention during a short storytime
- Verbally communicate his or her wants and needs
- Take responsibility for his or her belongings
- Accept limits---Can he or she be redirected to another task or activity
- Remember and follow two-to-three step verbal directions
- Separate from parents easily
- Self-help skills should include toileting independently (including flushing the toilet and washing hands), snaps, zippers, buttons, and dressing for outdoor play independently
- Does the child show an interest in learning, and curiosity about his/her world
- Say his or her first and last name
- Open a milk carton
- Pack and unpack a backpack
- Use scissors to cut out a simple project
- Use a glue bottle and glue stick
- Wait for a turn



Desirable Cognitive Skills: Does Your Child---

- Ask questions about a story
- Retell a story by looking at pictures in the book
- Repeat simple songs or nursery rhymes
- Recognize his or her name, recognize letters in his or her name
- Recognize some letters of the alphabet
- Recognize basic colors
- Understand descriptive terms such as
 - ❖ Empty and full
 - ❖ In and out
 - ❖ Up and down
 - ❖ Front and back
 - ❖ Over and under
 - ❖ Long and short
 - ❖ Hot and cold
 - ❖ Fast and slow
 - ❖ Wet and dry
 - ❖ Night and day

Desirable Math Skills: Can Your Child---

- Recognize, identify, and draw simple geometric shapes
- Recognize and identify geometric shapes in the environment
- Recognize numerals 0 – 10 written in random order
- Count to 20
- Sort and classify objects of different shape, size, and color
- Copy and repeat simple patterns
- Understand terms shorter, heavier, more than, less than
- Understand the concept of time such as before, after, yesterday, today



Desirable Language, Reading, and Writing Skills: Does Your Child---

- Demonstrate how to use a book
- Understand that books have titles, authors, and illustrators
- Predict what comes next
- Understand that print has a meaning
- Understand left-to-right and top-to-bottom directionality
- Know the difference between letters and words
- Determine which of several letters are the same or different
- Identify and produce rhymes
- Draw a self-portrait
- Demonstrate correct pencil grip
- Write first name with capital at the beginning and lower case letters to follow
- Share thoughts, information, and ideas
- Communicate emotions and needs to peers and adults
- Participate in group discussions
- Respond to stories by asking questions, telling about personal experiences, and sharing ideas

