

IS IT TIME FOR KINDERGARTEN?

How can I tell if my child is ready for kindergarten?

Starting school can be an exciting and anxious time for families. There are many factors to consider when deciding if your child is ready for kindergarten. These factors may include maturity, motor skills, attention span, and age. Kindergarten expectations have changed a lot over the years and a key factor to your child's success is his or her readiness for school. By the end of kindergarten, students will be reading, writing sentences and computing addition and subtraction. If your child meets the age criteria, you may also want to consider the kindergarten readiness skills below:



Self-Help Skills

- Use the bathroom independently
- Put coat on and zip
- Button/snap pant fasteners
- Recognize his/her first and last name (not a nickname)
- Ties shoes

Fine Motor Skills

- Hold a pencil with correct grip
- Use scissors to cut basic shapes
- Trace lines and shapes
- Draw and color a picture
- Use glue sticks and glue



Social Skills

- Complete 2-step directions
- Sit and listen to someone read a story for 5-10 minutes
- Play a game and accept losing
- Take turns while playing
- Follow direction from adults
- Complete short tasks without an adult's help.
- Control emotions without tantrums
- Asks for help

Academic Skills

- Count to 20 and recognize numbers 0 - 10
- Identify letter names (out of order)
- Know letter sounds (in random order)
- Write first name
- Know basic shapes and colors

