



*"The more you read,  
the more things you know.  
The more you learn,  
the more places you'll go."*

Dr. Seuss

# Kindergarten Readiness Checklists

Play school with your child. Practice these skills and check them off as they are mastered.  
**Celebrate!**

## Reading Tips

Daily reading, or storytelling using pictures from books, in a comfortable, warm setting (snuggled together on the couch, rocking together in a chair, before bedtime, etc.) will help create a love of reading and learning in your child. They will associate reading with comfort and special times with you.

- Ask your child to make predictions about a book from the title alone.
- Ask them to use the pictures from the book to tell a story before reading the book itself. Then ask these questions to compare their story with the actual content of the book...
  - Was your story the same as the one in the book?
  - How was it the same or how was it different?
  - Which story did you like best? Why?

## Suggestions for Parents

Be sure to take time to answer any questions your child may have about kindergarten. (How will I know where to put my backpack? Where do we eat lunch? Will I ride a bus? etc.). Visiting the school and reading books about the first days of school will help.

You might go to the library and check out books like:

*Annabel Swift, Kindergartener*  
by Amy Schwartz

*The Kissing Hand*  
by Audrey Penn

*Tomorrow is the First Day of School*  
by Maureen MacDowell

*Look Out Kindergarten, Here I Come*  
by Nancy Carlson

## I CAN:

- recognize and name basic shapes: square, circle, triangle and rectangle
- recognize and name numbers 1-10, even when they are out of order
- count to 20
- count ten objects, pointing to each one as I count
- say or sing the alphabet
- recognize the letters of the alphabet, both uppercase and lowercase (even out of order)
- identify colors in an eight-count crayon pack
- recognize my first name in print
- sort items by size, color or shape
- hold a book and turn pages
- tell if two words rhyme
- identify some letter sounds
- say my parents' full names, address and phone numbers (at least one)
- put on my coat or jacket and zip it up

## I CAN:

- tie my shoes
- take turns and share
- sit quietly and listen
- follow simple directions
- use the bathroom by myself (including zipping and buttoning pants)
- put on my backpack
- hold a pencil or crayon
- cut with scissors
- put things away
- hang my backpack on a hook
- wash my hands with soap
- use a tissue to wipe my nose
- cough into my elbow
- stand in line
- drink from a drinking fountain
- raise my hand and wait to be called on
- open any food containers in my lunch