Kindergarten Readiness Indicator Checklist for Parents

The transition to kindergarten is respected as a major milestone for both the child and family. Attitudes towards school and learning are often determined by this first experience with school. A smooth transition to kindergarten can help make sure your child is successful in school.

The information provided below is designed to help you prepare your children for a successful first experience at school.

You Bet, I'm Ready for K!

Social Skills

- Uses words to solve problems or conflicts
- Adjusts to new situations easily
- Follows simple two-step directions
- Can communicate with adults and children
- Takes responsibility for own belongings (lunch, coat, etc.)
- Responds sympathetically to others' distress with words and actions
- Stays with an activity until completion
- Demonstrates increasing self-control

Fine/ Gross Motor Skills

- Cuts with scissors
- Can use a glue stick
- Can trace forms or copy simple shapes
- Can put on/ take off sweatshirt, button/ zip pants independently
- Holds and uses crayons, markers, pens and pencils correctly
- Uses appropriate bathroom skills
- Can write his/ her own name
Cognitive Development
- Is curious, interested, and willing to try new things
- Attempts new tasks knowing it’s OK to make mistakes
- Focuses and pays attention during an activity such as story time
- Counts in sequence up to 20
- Can identify basic colors and shapes
- Knows his/her birthday
- Can recognize/write own name
- Understands the concepts of *none, some, all, more than, and less than*
- Knows that the final number counted represents the total number of objects in a set

Language Skills
- Speaks in sentences
- Knows by heart and recites some common rhymes and songs
- Expresses ideas so that others can understand
- Looks at books or pictures on his/her own
- Knows his/her own first and last name
- Can tell and retell familiar stories
- Uses appropriate volume when speaking
- Knows all uppercase letters

To help your child prepare for the transition to kindergarten, start developing a daily routine a few weeks before school starts. Have your child wake up, eat and go to bed at the same times each day. Talk about your child’s about school and listen to any concerns your child expresses. Reading books together about starting school can also help your child know what to expect.