



Kindergarten Readiness Checklist

Track your child's progress toward school readiness • Ages 4–6

For Parents

- Use this checklist over several months, not as a one-day test.
- Check off skills as your child demonstrates them consistently.
- Focus on 2–3 areas at a time. Practice daily for 10 minutes.
- Every child develops at their own pace — this is a guide, not a deadline.
- Bring this checklist to your kindergarten orientation meeting.

Language & Literacy

- Recognizes and names all 26 uppercase letters
- Recognizes and names all 26 lowercase letters
- Knows the sound each letter makes
- Writes their first name
- Holds a book correctly and turns pages
- Recognizes some common sight words (the, and, is, I)
- Can retell a simple story in order
- Speaks in complete sentences (5–6 words)
- Rhymes simple words (cat/hat, dog/log)
- Blends sounds to read simple CVC words (c-a-t = cat)

Math & Numbers

- Counts to 20 (or higher)
- Counts objects accurately (1-to-1 correspondence)
- Recognizes written numbers 0–10

- Writes numbers 0–10
- Understands concepts of more, less, and equal
- Knows basic shapes (circle, square, triangle, rectangle)
- Sorts objects by color, shape, or size
- Recognizes and extends simple patterns (AB, ABC)
- Adds small numbers using objects ($2 + 3 = 5$)
- Understands ordinal position (first, second, third)

Motor Skills

- Holds a pencil with proper grip
- Cuts along a straight line with scissors
- Colors within the lines (mostly)
- Traces shapes and letters
- Draws a recognizable person (head, body, limbs)
- Buttons and zips clothing independently
- Ties shoes (or making progress)
- Copies simple shapes (circle, square, cross)

Social & Emotional Skills

- Follows 2–3 step directions
- Takes turns and shares with others
- Expresses needs and feelings with words
- Separates from parent without major distress
- Plays cooperatively with other children
- Shows empathy (comforts a sad friend)
- Manages frustration without hitting or biting
- Follows classroom-type routines (sit, listen, wait)

Self-Care & Independence

- Uses the restroom independently
- Washes and dries hands properly
- Opens lunch containers and snack bags
- Puts on and takes off jacket independently
- Knows full name, age, and parent's name
- Knows basic address or phone number

Progress Notes

Use this space to note areas of strength and areas to focus on.
