

Social Skills Checklist

What Kindergarten Teachers Look For

Following Directions

- Follows a 1-step direction without reminders
- Follows a 2-step direction (do X, then Y)
- Follows a 3-step direction most of the time
- Listens the first time without needing a repeat

Taking Turns and Sharing

- Waits for a turn during a game or activity
- Shares materials (crayons, blocks, books)
- Uses a timer or system to manage turn-taking
- Plays a board game with turn-taking rules

Independence and Self-Help

- Puts on and takes off coat independently
- Opens lunch containers and snack bags
- Uses the bathroom independently (full sequence)
- Cleans up after an activity without prompting
- Carries backpack and personal belongings

Emotional and Social Communication

- Uses words for feelings ("I'm frustrated" / "I'm sad")
- Asks for help when needed ("I need help with ____")
- Separates from caregiver within 5 minutes
- Sits and listens for 10–15 minutes during a story

Role-Play Scripts to Practice

- Joining a group: "Can I play with you?"
- Conflict over a toy: "I was using that. Can I have it back?"
- Asking for help: "Excuse me, I need help with ____."
- Drop-off goodbye: "Bye! See you after school."
- Unkind words: "That's not nice. Please don't say that."

Start today's lesson: [kindergartenstart.com/?src=pdf](https://www.kindergartenstart.com/?src=pdf)