

Kindergarten Readiness Checklist

Language Skills

Speak in complete sentences and be understood by others most of the time

Use words to express needs and wants

Understand two-step directions

Make comparisons and describe relationships between objects like big/little, under/over, and first/last

Reading Readiness Skills

Enjoy listening to stories

Know how to find the first page of a book and which way to flip the pages

Recognize familiar logos and signs, like stop signs

Recite the alphabet and identify most of the letters

Recognize and try to write their own name

Recognize when two words rhyme (like *cat* and *bat*)

Start to connect letter sounds to letters (like the sound of the first letter in their name)

Draw a picture to help express an idea

Math Skills

Count from 1 to 10 without skipping numbers

Match a number to a group of five or fewer items (“I see three cats”)

Recognize and name basic shapes (square, circle, triangle, rectangle)

Understand *more than* and *less than*

Arrange three objects in the right order (like from smallest to biggest)

Name or point to the colors in a box of eight crayons

Self-Care Skills

Use the bathroom and wash up on their own

Get dressed on their own (but may still need help with buttons, zippers, and shoelaces)

Know and can say their first and last name and age

Social and Emotional Skills

Separate from a parent or caregiver without getting overly upset

Interact with other kids

Pay attention for at least five minutes to a task an adult is leading, like listening to directions for an activity or discussing the day's weather during circle time

Fine Motor Skills

Use a pencil or crayon with some control

Use scissors

Copy basic shapes

Make distinct marks that look like letters and write some actual letters, especially the ones in their name

Put together a simple puzzle

Gross Motor Skills

Run

Jump with feet together

Hop on one foot

Climb stairs

Bounce a ball and try to catch it