

Kindergarten Readiness

Here are some things you can work on over the summer so that your child is academically, behaviorally, and socially ready for Kindergarten:

Academics:

- Teach your child how to say their first and last name, recognize the letters in their name, and practice writing their name.
- Identifying letter names - Have your child practice naming all uppercase and lowercase letters. Write each letter separately (26 uppercase and 26 lowercase - 52 total) on index cards. Mix them up out of ABC order, and have your child name each letter shown.
- Saying letter sounds - Practice each letter sound and matching the sounds to their letter. We use the Orton Gillingham Approach for phonics instruction. You can visit YouTube.com to hear how the letter sounds are correctly pronounced by visiting The Secret Stories Better Alphabet.
- Read with your child and to your child.
- Encourage writing - early stages of writing are drawing a picture and labeling it with the beginning letter sound.
- Counting aloud - 1-10, 1-20, 1-50, 1-100
- Counting a set of objects (ensuring one to one correspondence)
- Knowing colors and basic shapes

Other: Behavior/Social-Emotional

- Sharing and taking turns
- Being kind and respectful to others
- Knowing how to independently zip/unzip and put on a coat and backpack
- Help your child learn how to DRESS INDEPENDENTLY, focusing on outerwear (coats, shoes, mittens, boots, hat). Begin working on the skill of tying shoes.
- Bathroom etiquette (washing hands well, flushing the toilet, undoing/doing belts, zips, snaps, etc.)
- Gradually eliminating naps from their daily schedule
- Provide opportunities for your child to play and share with other children approximately the same age
- Encourage imaginative play and creative ideas
- Let your child practice using crayons, markers, scissors, and glue
- Select at least one task for which your child can assume responsibility. (This can include making the bed, setting the table, getting the mail, taking out the trash, etc.) Expect your child to pick up toys, books and clothing that they use.
- Establish a regular sleep pattern (8-10 hours)