

General Knowledge and Motor Skills

- ◆ Identify body parts, such as head, toe, and elbow.
- ◆ Draw a vertical and horizontal line.
- ◆ Cut paper with blunt scissors. Hold a pencil correctly.
- ◆ Copy letters and shapes, such as circles and squares.
- ◆ Follow basic safety rules, such as looking both ways before crossing the street.
- ◆ Group items according to form, color, and use.
- ◆ Have some understanding of how the world works (grandpa is older than a child; an umbrella is used when it rains).
- ◆ Know basic colors.
- ◆ Count up to twenty and recognize numerals up to ten or more.

For ideas on enhancing these skills see your child's teacher.

Parents are a child's first and most important teachers. Story time at a public library is a **time for parents and children to have fun.**

Early literacy is what children know about reading and writing before they can actually read and write.

Public libraries provide the opportunity for children to interact with books. Many public libraries provide baby, toddler, and pre-school story times.

Contact your local public library to find out about their **story time schedule.**

Pikes Peak Library District 719-531-6333
www.ppld.org

Resources:

Ready, Set, Go! (www.del.wa.gov)
Kindergarten Readiness Tips for Washington Families

Getting Ready for KINDERGARTEN Ready? Set? Go!
www.ColoradoStateLibrary.org



SUCCESSFUL TRANSITION to KINDERGARTEN

KINDERGARTEN READINESS: A Child's Checklist

All children develop in their own way. These are some general things for your family to think about when getting your child ready to start kindergarten.

I feel comfortable with the school I'll be attending.

- I've visited my new school building, walked around and used the restrooms there.
- I know where my classroom is.
- I know where the playground is.
- I know where the school office is, and what I can go there for.
- I know where I'll be dropped off and picked up each day.

I am excited about starting kindergarten.

- My parents listen to my feelings about starting kindergarten, and help me answer the questions I have.
- My parents show me every day that learning is fun!
- I know I will meet children who are different from me and I will make new friends.

I know what to expect on school days.

- I know that I have a regular time to go to bed and a regular time to get up on school days.
- I know I'll have a healthy breakfast each morning, either at home or at school.
- I know where my bus stop is located.
- I know some of the rules of my new classroom.

I know my parents are excited about me starting kindergarten.

- They read to me every day at home.
- They help out with school activities if they can.
- They attend teacher-parent meetings if they can.
- They have made sure my health records are up-to-date.
- They have checked into free- and reduced-price breakfast and lunch programs at my school.
- They encourage me to think of solutions when I have a problem.
- They explain to me that families have their own traditions and celebrations.
- They provide opportunities for me to play with other children.

I know my skills are ready for kindergarten because I can do some of these things...

Language and Reading Skills

- ◆ State my name, my parents names, my home address and telephone number
- ◆ Identify some labels and signs (like McDonald's or stop signs)
- ◆ Know some letters and make letter-sound matches
- ◆ Understand that writing carries a message
- ◆ Enjoy listening to and talking about story books
- ◆ Ask and answer questions related to the story
- ◆ "Read" familiar books alone, often by memory, using picture cues
- ◆ Understand that we read English from left to right, top to bottom
- ◆ Speak clearly and understandably

For ideas on enhancing these skills, see your child's teacher.

Social and Emotional Skills

- ◆ Follow classroom routines.
- ◆ Play cooperatively with others.
- ◆ Label and express feelings and emotions.
- ◆ Try new activities willingly.
- ◆ Stand up for myself but know that bullying and violence are wrong.
- ◆ Wait politely for my turn in line or to speak.
- ◆ Take care of personal needs such as toilet, hand washing, clothing.
- ◆ Pay attention to a story or activity for ten minutes.

For ideas on enhancing these skills, see your child's teacher.