

# Important Skills for Children to Have Entering Kindergarten

## Reading Readiness

- ✓ Remember pictures from a printed page
- ✓ Repeats a 6-8 word sentence
- ✓ Pretends to read
- ✓ Has been read to frequently
- ✓ Answers questions about a short story
- ✓ Answers questions about a short story
- ✓ Looks at pictures and tells a story
- ✓ Knows some nursery rhymes
- ✓ Knows meaning of simple words
- ✓ Beginning to recognize sounds and letters in the alphabet
- ✓ "Says" the alphabet (not sing)

## Time

- ✓ Understands day and night
- ✓ Knows age and birthday

## Listening and Sequencing

- ✓ Follows 2-3 step directions
- ✓ Pays attention
- ✓ Retells a simple story in sequence
- ✓ Repeats a sequence of orally given numbers
- ✓ Repeats sequence of sounds

## Colors and Shapes

- ✓ Recognizes colors- red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple, brown, black, white, and gray

- ✓ Recognizes triangles, circles, squares, ovals, and rectangles

## Numbers

- ✓ Counts to at least 20
- ✓ Can count objects one at a time

## Size, Position and Direction

- ✓ Understands
  - Big and Little
  - Long and Short
  - Up and Down
  - Front and Back
  - Hot and Cold
  - Over and Under
  - Empty and Full
  - More and Less
  - Fast and Slow
  - Top and Bottom

## Knows

- ✓ Body parts
- ✓ Own first and last name
- ✓ Parents or guardians first and last name(s)
- ✓ First and last name of other caregiver
- ✓ Address
- ✓ Phone number
- ✓ Own gender

# Important Skills for Children to Have Entering Kindergarten

## Motor Skills

- ✓ Is able to
  - Run
  - Walk in a straight line
  - Jump
  - Hop
- ✓ Alternates feet walking downstairs
- ✓ Stand on one foot 5-10 seconds
- ✓ Walk backwards for 5 et
- ✓ Throw a ball
- ✓ Paste pictures on paper
- ✓ Clap hands
- ✓ Button Clothes
- ✓ Build with blocks
- ✓ Complete simple puzzles
- ✓ Draw and color beyond a simple scribble
- ✓ Zip clothes
- ✓ Control pencil and crayon
- ✓ Handle scissors
- ✓ Cut and draw simple shapes

## Social and Emotional Development

- ✓ Express elf verbally
- ✓ Identifies siblings and other children by name
- ✓ Can be away from parents for 2-3 hours
- ✓ Looks forward to going to school
- ✓ Can take care of toilet needs independently
- ✓ Care for own belongings
- ✓ Dress self
- ✓ Brush teeth
- ✓ Joins in family conversations
- ✓ Carries a plate of food
- ✓ Maintains self-control
- ✓ Recognizes authority
- ✓ Shares with others
- ✓ Knows when to use a tissue
- ✓ Puts away toys
- ✓ Helps with family chores
- ✓ Works independently