

School Readiness

Readiness means your child:

- * has a sense of self-worth
- * has a sense of trust, security and stability to be able to enter new situations and learn.
- * can feel comfortable if s/he is away from you for several hours.
- * is curious
- * can play with other children.
- * can play independently for short periods.
- * can listen to a story.
- * can use the bathroom by him or herself.
- * has the capacity to look and listen carefully and focus for short periods of time.
- * attend to and learn new skills and concepts.

80 Skills That Help Ease the Transition to Kindergarten

Source: [State: Arizona Department of Education](#)

To be ready for kindergarten, preschoolers need a variety of skills. While few students possess all of them before they enter, here's a list of skills that will help make the transition easier, divided by subject area:

Reading Readiness

Remembers pictures from a printed page

Repeats a 6 to 8 word sentence

Pretends to read (has been read to often)

Identifies own first name in writing

Attempts to print own first name

Answers questions about a short story

Looks at pictures and tells a story

Understands words are read left to right

Familiar with the letters of the alphabet

Knows some nursery rhymes

Knows the meaning of simple words

Time

Understands day and night

Knows age and birthday

Recognizes Colors Shapes

Recognizes primary colors

Recognizes triangles, circles, squares, rectangle

Numbers

Counts to 10

Listening Sequencing

Follows simple directions

Pays attention

Recognizes common sounds

Retells a simple story in sequence

Repeats a sequence of sounds

Repeats a sequence of numbers heard

Size, Position Direction

Big and little

Long and short

Up and down

In and out

Front and back

Over and under

Hot and cold

Empty and full

More and less

Fast and slow

Top and bottom

Motor Skills

Run

Walk a straight line

Jump

Hop

Alternate feet walking downstairs

March

Stand on one foot 10 seconds

Walk backwards for 5 feet

Throw a ball

Paste pictures on paper

Clap hands

Button clothes

Build with blocks

Complete simple 5 piece puzzle or less

Draw or color beyond a simple scribble

Zip clothes

Control pencil and crayon well

Handle scissors

Cut and draw simple shapes

Social-Emotional

Expresses self verbally

Looks forward to going to school

Recognizes authority

Shares with others

Helps with family chores

Works independently

Identifies other children by name

Can take care of toilet needs independently

Cares for own belongings

Dresses self

Brushes teeth

Can be away from parents for 2 to 3 hours

Joins in family conversation

Carries a plate of food

Maintains self-control

Gets along well with others

Talks easily

Meets visitors without shyness

Puts toys away

My Child Knows...

Body Parts

Own first name

Own last name

Parents' names

Home address

Home phone number

When to use a handkerchief

Own sex