

Kindergarten Readiness Checklist



Cognitive & Learning Skills

- ✓ Recognizes basic shapes (circle, square, triangle, rectangle)
- ✓ Knows and names colors
- ✓ Can count to 10 (or higher)
- ✓ Understands concepts of “more” and “less”
- ✓ Can sort objects by size, color, or type
- ✓ Recognizes some letters of the alphabet
- ✓ Recognizes their own name in print
- ✓ Begins to understand the connection between letters and sounds
- ✓ Can follow 2–3 step directions



Language & Communication Skills

- ✓ Speaks in full sentences
- ✓ Can describe familiar objects/events
- ✓ Understands and answers “who, what, where, when, why” questions
- ✓ Knows and uses common words (nouns, verbs, adjectives)
- ✓ Can retell a simple story or sequence of events
- ✓ Listens to and understands a short story read aloud

- ✓ Uses words to express wants and needs clearly



Social & Emotional Skills

- ✓ Plays cooperatively with other children
- ✓ Shares and takes turns
- ✓ Shows curiosity and willingness to try new activities
- ✓ Manages separation from parent/caregiver with minimal distress
- ✓ Expresses feelings appropriately (happy, sad, mad, scared)
- ✓ Demonstrates some self-control (waits, follows rules, etc.)
- ✓ Can follow group routines (circle time, cleanup time)



Physical & Motor Skills

Gross Motor

- ✓ Runs, jumps, hops, and climbs
- ✓ Can walk up and down stairs alternating feet
- ✓ Throws and catches a large ball
- ✓ Balances on one foot for a few seconds

Fine Motor

- ✓ Holds a crayon, pencil, or marker with control

- ✓ Can draw simple shapes and figures
- ✓ Colors within lines (with effort)
- ✓ Can use scissors to cut along a line
- ✓ Can stack blocks and complete simple puzzles



Self-Help & Independence Skills

- ✓ Uses the bathroom independently (wiping, flushing, washing hands)
- ✓ Dresses self (zippers, buttons, putting on shoes)
- ✓ Feeds self with utensils
- ✓ Can open and close lunch containers/snacks
- ✓ Cleans up toys and personal items with reminders
- ✓ Recognizes own belongings (backpack, coat, lunchbox)



Early Learning & Curiosity

- ✓ Enjoys listening to stories, songs, and rhymes
- ✓ Can recite familiar songs or nursery rhymes
- ✓ Shows interest in books and can turn pages properly
- ✓ Attempts to write name or draw recognizable letters/shapes
- ✓ Asks questions about the world (“why,” “how”)
- ✓ Pretends or role-plays in play scenarios