



Kindergarten Readiness Guidelines

PreK-3 Cross District
Coalition

Parents and families have a very important role as their child's first teacher. Children learn in different ways and at different rates. They come to school with varying skills. These guidelines highlight some of the skills that will help your child be prepared for kindergarten. The list below suggests ways to work with your child to help him/her be successful in school.

Social/ Emotional		We are working on this.	Yes, my child can do this.
1	My child can follow 2-step directions consistently and is beginning to follow 3-step directions.		
2	My child can remember and follow routines (ex: dinner, bath, brush teeth, read bedtime story, go to bed).		
3	My child can tell about his/her own feelings (ex: I feel happy, I feel sad, I feel excited).		
4	My child can calm him/herself when frustrated or upset.		
5	My child can put on his/her own coat.		
6	My child can use the bathroom independently.		
7	My child can wash his/her hands.		
8	My child can put away toys, clean up small spills and pick up after him/herself.		
9	My child shares, takes turns and helps others.		
10	My child adjusts to new situations and/or people.		
11	My child plays cooperatively with others.		
12	My child can comfort others.		
13	My child has the opportunity to play regularly with the same friends his/her age.		
Physical		We are working on this.	Yes, my child can do this.
1	My child can run, jump and gallop.		
2	My child can stand on one foot.		
3	My child can throw and catch a large ball.		
4	My child can kick a ball.		
5	My child can cut using scissors.		
6	My child can hold and use a pencil.		
7	My child can buckle, zip, snap, and button.		
Language		We are working on this.	Yes, my child can do this.
1	My child can use words to express his/her thoughts and needs.		
2	My child can name and describe familiar things in his/her world.		
3	My child uses new words everyday.		
4	My child speaks clearly and is understood by most people.		
5	My child can speak in 4-6 word sentences.		
6	My child can talk about things that happened in the past, with details.		
7	My child can have a conversation on one topic with another person, taking turns talking.		

Cognitive		We are working on this.	Yes, my child can do this.
1	My child can think of more than one way to solve a problem.		
2	My child shows curiosity and seeks answers to questions.		
3	My child shows flexibility and creativity in play and problem solving.		
4	My child can group things by color, shape, or size, etc.		
5	My child can sit still, stay focused and stick with an activity.		
Literacy		We are working on this.	Yes, my child can do this.
1	My child knows 5-10 rhymes or children's songs.		
2	My child knows if words start with the same sound (for example: big, brown, bear).		
3	My child can hear parts of words (ex: hap-py).		
4	My child recognizes and names 5-10 upper and 5-10 lower case letters.		
5	My child is familiar with the parts of a book: cover, title, pages, words, etc.		
6	My child reads with an adult or listens to a story daily; he/she can talk about and retell a story.		
7	My child "writes" a story by drawing pictures and/or using letters.		
8	My child can write his/her name and identify the letters.		
9	My child can say the alphabet.		
Math		We are working on this.	Yes, my child can do this.
1	My child can count 10-20 objects, pointing to each object.		
2	My child can count out loud, in order, up to 20.		
3	My child is beginning to understand and use the words more, less and the same.		
4	My child can identify numbers 1-10.		
5	My child connects numbers 1-10 with the matching set of objects.		
6	My child identifies common shapes (ex: circle, square, triangle, rectangle).		
7	My child matches and sorts simple shapes.		
8	My child uses measuring tools in play (ex: cups, spoons, ruler, scale).		
9	My child uses words to describe things by size, shape, and weight (ex: big, circle, heavy).		
10	My child can put things in order (ex: 1st, 2nd, 3rd).		
Personal Information		We are working on this.	Yes, my child can do this.
1	My child knows his/her first name, last name and parents' names.		
2	My child knows his/her address and phone number.		
3	My child can name 10 body parts (head, shoulders, knees, fingers, etc.).		
4	My child knows his/her age and birthday.		

Developed by the PreK-3 Cross District Coalition of Edmonds, Everett, Federal Way, Highline and Seattle Public Schools. Aligned with Teaching Strategies GOLD, WaKIDS (Washington Kindergarten Inventory of Developing Skills) Progressions of Development & Learning and adapted from Characteristics of Children Entering Kindergarten. Changes will not be made to this document without the written consent of the PreK-3 Cross District Coalition. Funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. January 2014.