

WCASD Kindergarten Readiness Skills

Many parents ask if their child is ready for kindergarten. Below are some of the skills we work on throughout the kindergarten year. Parents can help prepare children by working on these areas at home also.

All children progress at different rates.

Language & Communication

- ✎ Knows and says first and last name
- ✎ Uses complete sentences
- ✎ Five to six words
- ✎ Expresses frustration/anger with words
- ✎ Follows two to three-step directions
- ✎ Understands questions and responds to them

Self Care

- ◇ Responsible for personal belongings
- ◇ Uses the bathroom without help
- ◇ Includes washing hands
- ◇ Gets dressed on own
 - ◆ Snaps, buttons, zips, ties

Math

- + Counts from one to ten
- + Counts using one-to-one correspondence
- + Identifies basic shapes
- + Identifies colors

Fine Motor

- Traces lines and basic shapes
- Square, circle, etc.
- Is able to copy basic shapes and lines
- Holds a writing utensil with a non-fisted grip
- Uses scissors to cut on lines and around shapes/simple objects

Pre-Reading/Literacy

- 📖 Matches some letters to sounds or sounds to letters
- 📖 Recognizes own name when it's written or typed
- 📖 Writes own name and can identify the letters in his/her name
- 📖 Recognizes rhyming words
- 📖 Listens to stories/books
- 📖 Holds a book correctly

Social

- ★ Able to play with others as well as alone
- ★ Able to interact appropriately with other children with minimal guidance supervision
- ★ Able to share/take turns/wait for turn
- ★ Shows empathy
- ★ Plays cooperatively with others, including making group decisions, role assignments, and fair play
- ★ Able to play imaginative games and simple board games
- ★ Able to negotiate disagreements
- ★ Able to wait for adult attention

Behavioral

- ✎ Emerging impulse control and ability to delay gratification
- ✎ Able to initiate and participate in schools tasks
- ✎ Usually able to follow rules and multi-part directions
- ✎ Understands right and wrong, takes ownership for actions
- ✎ More independent and able to take on more responsibilities at home
- ✎ Dressing self, sleeping in own bed at night, brushing teeth
- ✎ Able to persevere when confronted with age appropriate but challenging tasks
- ✎ Respects authority
- ✎ Focuses on activities for five minutes or more

Emotional

- ▲ Separates from caregiver easily or without undue stress
- ▲ Has a positive outlook about attending school
- ▲ Increasing ability to control emotions
- ▲ Has at least one way to calm self and cope with frustration/disappointment
- ▲ Emerging ability to name and understand basic feelings (happy, sad, angry, etc...)