

# Is It time for Kindergarten?

## How can I tell if my child is ready for Kindergarten

Starting school can be an exciting and anxious time for families. There are many factors to consider when deciding if your child is ready for kindergarten. These factors may include maturity, motor skills, attention span, and age.

Kindergarten expectations have changed a lot over the years and a key factor to your child's success is his or her readiness for school. By the end of kindergarten, students will be reading, writing sentences and computing addition and subtraction. If your child meets the age criteria, you may also want to consider the kindergarten readiness skills below:

### Self-Help Skills

- ✓ Use the bathroom independently
- ✓ Zip Coat
- ✓ Take shoes on and off
- ✓ Button/Snap pant fasteners
- ✓ Recognize his/her first and last name (not a nickname)

### Fine Motor Skills

- ✓ Hold a pencil correctly
- ✓ Write first name
- ✓ Use scissors to cut basic shapes
- ✓ Trace lines and shapes
- ✓ Color or draw a picture

## Social Skills

- ✓ Complete 2-step directions
- ✓ Sit and listen to someone read a story for 5-10 minutes
- ✓ Play a game and accept losing
- ✓ Take turns while playing
- ✓ Complete short tasks without an adult's help
- ✓ Control emotions without tantrums

## Academic Skills

- ✓ Count to 20 and recognize numbers 0-10
- ✓ Sing and say ABC's
- ✓ Identify uppercase and lowercase letters (out of order)
- ✓ Begin to recognize letter sounds

