

Kindergarten Readiness Checklist

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While many schools have age requirements for kindergarten enrollment, there's no perfect formula that determines when children are truly ready to begin formal schooling.

It is always best to consult with the admissions office at your school. Some suggested readiness guides for kindergarten include the following.

- ✓ Listens to stories without interrupting
- ✓ Recognizes rhyming sounds
- ✓ Pays attention for short periods of time to adult-directed tasks
- ✓ Understands actions have both causes and effects
- ✓ Shows understanding of general times of day
- ✓ Cuts with scissors
- ✓ Traces basic shapes
- ✓ Begins to share with others
- ✓ Starts to follow rules
- ✓ Is able to recognize authority
- ✓ Manages bathroom needs
- ✓ Buttons shirts, pants, coats, and zip up zippers
- ✓ Begins to control oneself
- ✓ Separates from parents without being upset
- ✓ Speaks understandably
- ✓ Talks in complete sentences of five to six words
- ✓ Looks at pictures and then tell stories
- ✓ Identifies rhyming words
- ✓ Identifies the beginning sound of some words
- ✓ Identifies some alphabet letters
- ✓ Recognizes some common sight words like "stop"
- ✓ Sorts similar objects by color, size, and shape
- ✓ Recognizes groups of one, two, three, four, and five objects
- ✓ Counts to ten
- ✓ Bounces a ball