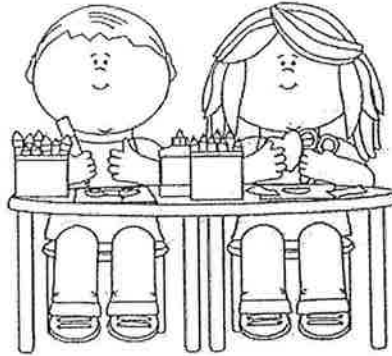


# Preparing Your Child For Kindergarten



## The First Day

I gave you a little wink and smile  
As you entered my room today.  
For I know how hard it is to leave  
And know your child must stay.  
You've been with him for five years now  
And have been a loving guide,  
But now, alas, the time has come  
To leave him at my side.  
Just know that as you drive away  
And tears down your cheeks may flow  
I'll love him as I would my own  
And help him learn and grow.  
For as a parent, I too know  
How quickly the years do pass  
And that one day soon it will be my turn  
To take my child to class.  
So please put your mind at ease  
And cry those tears no more  
For I will love him and take him in  
When you leave him at my door.

# Preparing Your Child For Kindergarten



## Behavior and self-help skills:

- (1) Children need to be able to wipe themselves, flush toilets, and wash their hands.
- (2) Children need to be able to hold a pencil correctly. They need to practice writing with their pencil. They also need to hold scissors correctly and practice cutting with them.
- (3) Children should be able to sit and listen when someone is talking.
- (4) Children need to learn that sometimes we have to do things we don't want to do. (school work, listening, sharing, etc.) There are consequences when they choose to disobey.
- (5) Children need to be able to tie their shoes, zip and unzip backpacks and coats, and put on their own gloves.

## Literacy skills:

Children need to read or be read to for 20 minutes a day. (practicing letter names and sounds, and high frequency words can count as part of this 20 minutes)

Children need to practice holding a pencil and writing their first name the correct way. It is very important that children start their name with an uppercase letter. **The rest of the letters need to be written in lowercase.** Start at the top and go down.

Children need to practice writing their letters correctly. They need to be able to write their upper and lowercase letters.

## Math Skills:

Children need to learn their five basic shapes.

Children need to know the names of numbers 0-10.

Children need to be able to write their numbers from 0-10 the correct way.

Children learn by doing! The more they practice, the more adept and confident they become!



You are being provided with flashcards and practice sheets to prepare your child for kindergarten.

- (1) Refer to the “Reading Readiness” page when you look at books with your child.
- (2) Use the handwriting guide to practice writing upper and lowercase letters. Please teach your child to start at the top and go down when he/she writes his/her letters. Words need to be written in lowercase.
- (3) Use the alphabet page to help your child practice the names and sounds of the letters.
- (4) Learn the names of the 5 basic shapes and 11 colors.
- (5) Learn the names of numbers 0-10. Please have your child show you each number on his/her fingers. It is very important for children to understand what each number represents. Practice writing numbers from 0-10.
- (6) Count to 20.
- (7) Practice reading and memorizing the kindergarten high frequency words.
- (8) Be familiar with rhyming. To help with this please read and recite nursery rhymes with your child. After your child is familiar with the rhyme, pause and let him/her fill in the missing rhyming word.

# Reading Readiness

As you read books together have your child practice the following skills:

## Before reading

- Hold the book right side up and turn the pages correctly
- Predict what the story is about by looking at the pictures
- Touch the top of the page, the bottom of the page, the page you read first, a letter, a number, a picture
- Point to the word you read first
- Show with their finger which direction you read
- When you get to the end of that line, then where do you read next?

## During reading

- Follow with their finger while you read the story
- Predict what will happen next
- Ask why something happened or how would they feel if this happened to them
- Mom/Dad-read with expression!

## After reading

- Retell the story in their own words
- Make up a different ending to the story
- Draw a picture about the story
- Ask what would they do if they were in the story
- READ IT AGAIN!