

Ready for Kindergarten?

On Target: Your child is doing great!

Mastery: Your child is doing even better than expected on this skill.

Red Flag: No need for panic! Just look for some playful learning activities to help your child grow in this area.

1. Counting

- **On Target:** Counting to 29 or 39
- **Mastery:** Counting to 100+
- **Red Flag:** Counting to 12

How to improve: Count anything and everything. Count aloud without counting actual objects.

2. The Alphabet

- **On Target:** Names all capital letters and some lowercase letters. Names half the sounds.
- **Mastery:** Names all capital and lowercase letters and every letter's sounds
- **Red Flag:** Names only a few capital letters and very few lowercase letters. Names only a few sounds.

How to improve: Point out letters every day until your child starts recognizing letters on his/her own.

3. Name Writing

- **On Target:** Can write first name legibly
- **Mastery:** Begins with a capital letter and follows with lowercase letters (first & last name)
- **Red Flag:** Cannot recognize her name, cannot spell it, or cannot write it

How to improve: Have your child write his/her name daily. Flip to a new page each day and watch as the name becomes smaller and more readable.

4. The Bathroom

- **On Target:** Is comfortable wearing his or her school clothes and operating the buttons, snaps and zippers independently
- **Mastery:** Can easily operate all kinds of fasteners on clothing without assistance
- **Red Flag:** Needs help removing and fastening clothing to use the bathroom

How to improve: Practice zipping, snapping and buttoning clothes.

5. Listening to Books

- **On Target:** Enjoys listening to a stack of picture books. Makes personal connections to stories and answers simple questions. May be recognizing a handful of familiar words.
- **Mastery:** Asks to be read to every day. Will listen to a large stack of picture books with good attention. Makes personal connections to stories and answers simple questions correctly. May be reading some books independently.
- **Red Flag:** Does not sit for more than 1-2 books at a time. Does not talk about books or ask basic questions. Cannot answer simple questions about a story. Usually prefers a screen to a book.

How to improve: Limit screen time and read to your child several times a day.