



This list of indicators identifies skills, knowledge and behaviors that will help your child be prepared for that special day – going to kindergarten. The checklist is NOT a test. It is a tool that you can use to help your child make the transition to kindergarten.

### **SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

- Separates from caregiver to another trusted adult
- Shares, takes turns and plays cooperatively with other children
- Expresses basic emotions such as happy, sad, mad or scared
- Responds sympathetically to others' distress with words and actions
- Recognizes similarities and differences in self and others (for example, boy or girl, hair and skin color)

### **COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT**

- Is curious, interested and willing to try new things
- Completes a task such as working a puzzle
- Adapts to new situations
- Focuses and pays attention during an activity such as story time
- Engages in memory games such as "What's Missing" and simple memory matching card games
- Uses number- and letter-like forms and/or drawings to represent ideas or feelings

### **PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT & HEALTH**

- Gallops, slides, hops, leaps and skips
- Steers a tricycle, balances on beam or sandbox edge
- Catches a ball with both hands
- Tosses or throws balls
- Kicks moving ball while running
- Pours liquids without spilling and builds with Legos® or blocks
- Uses a 3-point finger grip on pencil, crayon or paintbrush
- Makes a variety of lines and shapes such as ○, —, +, □ and △
- Uses scissors correctly to cut simple shapes and pictures
- Buttons, zips, laces and buckles
- Names a variety of foods and begins to classify food items as either fruits or vegetables
- Is aware of safe behavior and follows basic safety rules and routines
- Takes responsibility for personal self-care routines such as hand washing, brushing teeth, dressing and toileting
- Can express own health needs such as, "I'm hungry", "My head hurts", and "I'm tired"

### **LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT**

- Understands an increasing number and variety of words for objects, for actions, and to describe things
- Comprehends who, what, why and where questions
- Performs up to three-step directions
- Uses four- to six-word sentences
- Tells increasingly detailed stories or ideas
- Communicates clearly enough to be understood by most people
- Takes turns in conversation with others
- Responds to the English language
- Speaks and expresses self in English



## LITERACY

- Listens, tells and engages in story being read
- Participates in singing songs and saying rhymes
- Retells stories from favorite books and personal experiences
- Decides if two words rhyme for example, cat and bat
- Holds books right side up, turns pages one at a time from front-to-back
- Recognizes print they see in their everyday life (for example, stop signs and logos for Wal-Mart and McDonald's)
- Recognizes and names some letters of the alphabet, especially in their own name
- Produces the correct sounds for some of the letters of the alphabet
- Writes some letters correctly, especially those in own name

## MATHEMATICAL THINKING

- Counts in sequence up to 20
- Understands and uses terms such as first, second and last
- Counts objects using one number for each object

- Recognizes four objects in a group without counting
- Recognizes numerals 1-10
- Sorts objects by color, shape and size
- Recognizes and repeats patterns such as triangle, square, triangle, square
- Measures and compares height of objects
- Arranges objects from shortest to longest (for example, shoe sizes or different lengths of yarn)
- Recognizes and names familiar shapes such as square, triangle, circle and rectangle
- Understands and uses words such as inside, outside, up, down, over and under

## SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

- Asks questions about the world around them (for example, "What do plants need to grow?")
- Recognizes that living things change over time (for example, babies grow and become adults and seeds grow and become plants.)
- Recognizes and names these five colors: red, blue, yellow, green and black
- Uses simple technology devices such as touch screen, e-book reader or digital camera

## SOCIAL STUDIES

- Knows own first and last name, age, and knows names of family members
- Understands and talks about today, yesterday, tomorrow, after lunch, day and night
- Is aware of familiar buildings and special places in the community such as home, school, grocery store and park

## CREATIVITY & AESTHETICS

- Enjoys singing and moving to the beat and speed of music
- Explores drawing with crayons and markers
- Enjoys pretend play (for example, rocking a baby doll, driving a truck or pretending to talk on a toy telephone)