

The Readiness Checklist

During children's early years, families and child care providers can ensure children are prepared for school by helping children develop the skills listed here.

Listening and Speaking

- Follow multiple step directions
- Listen and respond to conversation
- Speak using multiple word sentences
- Ask and answer questions

Social and Emotional Skills

- Independently use the bathroom and wash hands
- Greet others and say please, thank you, and excuse me
- Share with others
- Show respect for self, others, and authority
- Communicate feelings, thoughts, and needs
- Follow classroom routines



Book Handling and Directionality

- Hold books appropriately
- Understand that print contains a message
- Understand that print moves from left to right and top to bottom

Story Sense/Comprehension

- Make predictions based on pictures and background knowledge
- Retell portions of stories with some understanding of sequence
- Understand the concept of an author and an illustrator
- Make personal connections to stories
- Understand fantasy versus reality
- Identify the beginning and end of a story
- Understand varying types of genres
- Comprehend stories
- Identify characters, events, and problems
- Able to repeat sentences and refrains in books

A B C D E F

Letters and Words

- Recognize and write (capital and lower case) their name
- Identify letters of the alphabet
- Sort letters by name and similar shapes
- Link sounds and symbols
- Name rhyming words
- Clap syllables with assistance
- Recognize common words (such as *I*, *and*, *the*, *with*, *is*, and *in*)
- Recognize print in everyday environments (traffic signs, cereal boxes, etc.)
- Understand the difference between a letter and a word

Writing

- Draw recognizable detailed pictures
- Explain pictures
- Form letters from top to bottom
- Label pictures and objects
- Attempt to spell words using invented spelling
- Understand that print conveys a message

Mathematics

- Understand the difference between letters and numbers
- Identify colors, shapes, and AB patterns
- Show some sense of different and alike
- Match and sequence objects and pictures
- Count to ten
- Demonstrate one to one correspondence in counting to ten
- Solve puzzles
- Understand simple graphs
- Sort objects



Fine and Gross Motor Skills

- Hop, skip, and jump
- Button, tie, snap, and zip
- Hold writing, cutting, and eating utensils appropriately
- Cut, glue, and color
- Dress independently (coat, shoes, boots, etc.)

Is Your Child Ready for Kindergarten?

ERIE 
TOGETHER
LEARN • WORK • THRIVE

Fun Things to Do with Your Child

Turn chores like laundry into learning activities. Ask your child to identify colors, or count the number of socks.

Develop Language, Math & Social skills

Play the "I Spy Game." Say "I spy something red." Let your child guess what it is.

Develop Listening, Math & Social skills



Encourage your child to play. Let them sort, stack and match, whether it's silverware, buttons, stones or socks.

Develop Math skills

Talk, sing and read to your child. Your child learns by hearing sounds and words at any age. The more you talk, the more they learn.

Develop Listening & Comprehension skills

Take a walk together and then follow it up with a book, song, or rhyme about what you experienced.

Develop Listening, Comprehension, Letters/Words & Motor skills



During the next grocery trip, have your child assist you in matching the coupon with the item.

Develop Math & Social skills

Read with your child every day, whether it's a book, traffic sign, grocery list, newspaper or a cereal box.

Develop Listening, Comprehension & Letters/Words skills

Using a paper plate, encourage your child to draw different faces, or use face parts cut from magazines, and then glue them to the paper plate.

Develop Social & Motor skills

Ask your child questions that can't be answered by just "yes" or "no." Instead of just asking "Do you see that pretty bird?" add "What other things fly?"

Develop Listening & Speaking skills

Visit www.ErieTogether.org for more ideas, as well as other resources designed to help you prepare your child for kindergarten.