

Kindergarten Readiness Checklist



While there's no perfect formula that determines when children are truly ready for kindergarten, you can use this checklist to see how well your child is doing in acquiring the skills found on most kindergarten checklists.

Check the skills your child has mastered. Then recheck every month to see what additional skills your child can accomplish easily.

Young children change so fast -- if they can't do something this week, they may be able to do it a few weeks later.

- Listen to stories without interrupting
- Recognize rhyming sounds
- Pay attention for short periods of time to adult-directed tasks
- Understand actions have both causes and effects
- Show understanding of general times of day
- Cut with scissors
- Trace basic shapes
- Begin to share with others
- Start to follow rules
- Be able to recognize authority
- Manage bathroom needs
- Button shirts, pants, coats, and zip up zippers
- Begin to control oneself
- Separate from parents without being upset
- Speak understandably
- Talk in complete sentences of five to six words
- Look at pictures and then tell stories
- Identify rhyming words
- Identify the beginning sound of some words
- Identify some alphabet letters
- Recognize some common sight words like "stop"
- Sort similar objects by color, size, and shape
- Recognize groups of one, two, three, four, and five objects
- Count to ten
- Bounce a ball

If your child has acquired most of the skills on this checklist and will be at least four years old at the start of the summer before he or she starts kindergarten, he or she is probably ready for kindergarten. What teachers want to see on the first day of school are children who are healthy, mature, capable, and eager to learn.

Source: <http://school.familyeducation.com/kindergarten/school-readiness/38491.html>

Innovations that Nurture Success in Parent Involvement to Reach Excellence

What you Need to Understand About Preschool Education



Preschool education is the term that is used to refer to education in regards to children that are aged 5 years old and under, and although many people believe that preschool education is not all that important, it actually really is, and this is why the matter of preschool education in general needs to be taken so seriously into consideration.

What is Preschool Education?

Basically, preschool education is an incredibly important part of children's lives, as it is the first basic education experience that they will have, and as well it is basically the first truly social setting and experience that they will have as well. Children learn perhaps the most in their first few years of life, and so this is why it is so important that they have the most enjoyable experience that they can in this regards.

You want to make sure that you choose a preschool where there are children of varying ages and you want to make sure that it is one where there is qualified personnel working, so that you know that your child will be in the best hands possible.

Before enrolling your child in any preschool, a good idea is to check out the school itself; for instance you will want to see what crafts and activities they have available for the children, who they have working there, how many children go there, and so on.

If you take the proper time and consideration in regards to a decision such as this, then you are sure to have the best end results, and this is important because you want your child to be as happy and as safe as possible. As well, since there are so many different preschools that you can choose from, it can thus often be hard simply trying to narrow the searching process down.

One thing that is a good idea that you may want to take into consideration is that if your child had friends before you went to put them in preschool – if there are other children that you know that your children play with – you may want to see if you can get your child into the same preschool as them, so that they are familiar with something and so that they will thus be more comfortable right off the bat. In the end of it all, you will see what a difference something like that would make.

Source: http://www.preschooletime.com/preschool_education.html

Graphics: <http://www.ace-clipart.com/school-clipart-01.html>