

Kindergarten

Entry Skills for Success

Children arrive to Kindergarten with a variety of skills and abilities. Below are skills characteristic of "strong" school readiness.

Reading

Recognize and know names of "most" upper and lower case letters

Knows "most" sounds letters make

May be an emergent reader that knows high frequency words - is beginning to decode words

Hears likenesses and differences in sounds

Sees likenesses and differences in pictures

Recognizes and produces rhyming words

Tracks print from left to right

Retells a simple story in own words

Has experience identifying pictures in sequential order

Math

Identifies colors (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple, white, black, pink, brown)

Identifies 2D shapes (circle, triangle, square, rectangle, oval and cube (3-D))

Counts to 20

Recognize numerals to 10

Can count correct items in a row (1:1 correspondence)

Can match a numeral to items in a group up to 5

Has experience sorting and classifying objects

Recognizes more/fewer, small/large, light/heavy

Writing

Can recognize and write first name

Has practiced writing alphabet letters and numbers on lines

Has practiced writing numbers to 10 on a line

Has experience expressing self with pictures and possibly letters/words

Writes from left to right

Can copy modeled letters, words or pictures onto paper

Fine Motor

Demonstrates eye and hand coordination

Can hold a writing tool with pinch grip

Can trace over a given line

Has experience with scissors and cutting

Has experience with a paintbrush and painting (large strokes)

Can pick up small objects like coins or seeds

Large Motor

Locomotor skills of feet moving body to include - Walking (heel to toe), running, hopping, jumping, skipping, galloping, sliding (sideways galloping), leaping

Social/Emotional

Is able to sit still and listen for 15 minutes

Controls impulses and follows safety rules (walking, hands to self, listening body)

Waits for turn without interrupting or becoming frustrated

Transitions easily - even if work is incomplete

Follows 3 step directions

Shares experiences and makes connections

Engages in problems solving (w/teacher's help if necessary)

Plays with others - initiates/welcomes

Can empathize and demonstrate caring for others

Communication

Expresses self and needs

Shares in individual, partner, small and whole group settings

Communicates in sentences

Problem solves by engaging in calm conversations

Personal Management

Manages clothing in restroom and weather gear for the outdoors

Takes care of belongings (coat, backpack)

Takes responsibility to organize and put away items

Applies him/herself to tasks at hand- is productive

Is emergent in the learning process of self management and personal growth

This is a great link to a Kindergarten Readiness Guide and Resource Tool created by Seattle Public Schools:

<file:///Users/tholmes/Desktop/Seattle%20Kindergarten%20Readiness%20Guidelines.html>