

Frank K. Hehny School

Clark, New Jersey

Kindergarten Readiness Checklist

Use the following checklist to help you identify your child's readiness for kindergarten. If you are concerned about your child's readiness for kindergarten, you may choose to schedule a conference to discuss your concerns.

To evaluate your child's progress, answer each skill with "yes," "inconsistently," or "not yet." **This is for your personal use only.**

Growth and Age

1. Will your child be five years old or older when he/she starts kindergarten?
2. Is your child at or better than the following norms or averages in weight and height?
Boys: Weight 40 lbs. Height 43 inches
Girls: Weight 37 lbs. Height 42 inches
3. Can strangers easily understand your child's speech?

Self-Help Skills

1. Can your child use the restroom independently and complete accompanying hygiene tasks?
2. Is your child able to dress him/herself (put on coat; fasten snaps, buttons, and zippers)?
3. Is your child able to state his/her full name and age?

Social/Emotional

1. Does your child separate from caregivers without excessive upset?
2. Does your child play/share with other children?
3. Can your child wait his/her turn?
4. Can your child attend to an adult-directed task for at least five minutes?
5. Does your child recognize and respond to other's feelings?
6. Can your child use "please" and "thank you?"

Language Skills (Expressive & Receptive)

1. Can your child express needs and wants verbally?
2. Does your child speak in complete sentences (5 to 6 words)?
3. Does your child use words, not physical action, to express emotions, such as anger or disappointment?
4. Does your child understand and follow two-step directions?
5. Does your child understand positional vocabulary, such as "on top of," "below," "next to")?

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6. Can your child pay attention to a short story when it is read and answer simple questions about it?
7. Can your child repeat a series of four numbers without practice, such as "say after me 6, 7, 1, 4"?
8. Does your child understand the meaning of simple words, like bicycle, apple, car, water, hammer, etc.?
9. Can your child supply the last word to the following statements?
 - a. Mother is a woman; Father is a ...
 - b. A fire is hot; an ice cube is ...
 - c. A plane goes fast; a turtle goes...
10. Can your child correctly name simple drawings, such as car, dog, cap, chair?
11. Can your child tell you how many ...
 - a. feet he/she has?
 - b. Ears a dog has?
12. Can your child tell...
 - a. Which goes faster, a car or a bicycle?
 - b. For what a key is used?
 - c. For what ears are used?
 - d. For what his/her eyes are used?
 - e. The names of three or four colors that you point out?
 - f. In what ways a sweater, shoes, and hat are the same?

Fine Motor Skills

1. Does your child hold a pencil/crayon in a non-fisted grip?
2. Is your child able to control scissors to complete a task?
3. Can your child trace lines and basic shapes?

Gross Motor Skills

1. Does your child run and skip?
2. Can your child walk backward for a distance of five or six feet?
3. Does your child alternate feet when walking down stairs?
4. Can your child walk in a straight line?
5. Can your child jump with feet together and hop while balancing on one foot?
6. Can your child bounce a kickball?
7. Can your child attempt a two-handed catch of a kickball?

Math Skills

1. Does your child know how to count to 10?
2. Has your child begun to count with one-to-one correspondence?
3. Can your child sort items by one or more attributes?
4. Can your child put together a puzzle of three to six pieces?

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Literacy/Phonemic Awareness Skills

1. Does your child enjoy being read to or listening to stories?
2. Does your child recognize environmental print, such as familiar logos, signs, and words?
3. Does your child understand how to use a book (i.e. hold the book right side up from where it starts to finishes)?
4. Can your child recite the alphabet?
5. Can your child identify some of the letters and their sounds?
6. Does your child recognize his/her own name in print?
7. Is your child able to discern if two words rhyme and maybe provide a third rhyme for the words?
8. Does your child write his/her own name using symbols or letters?
9. Can your child draw a picture to express an idea?

School Interest

1. Do you have books, magazines, and newspapers in your home that your child may examine?
2. Is your child unafraid of going to school?
3. Does your child often ask when he/she will be going to school?
4. Does your child pretend to read?
5. Have you attempted to create in your child the idea of looking forward to school experiences?