

Skills That Help Ease a Child's Transition into Kindergarten

Follows simple directions
Pays attention
Expresses self verbally
Recognizes authority
Shares with others
Helps with family chores
Works independently
Identified other children by name
Can take care of toilet need independently
Cares for own belongings
Separates easily from parents
Joins in family conversation
Maintains self-control
Gets along well with others

Can run, jump, hop
Alternates feet walking downstairs
Throws and catches a ball
Draws or colors beyond a simple scribble
Handles scissors
Cuts and draws simple shapes
Remembers pictures from a printed page
Pretends to read (has been read to often)
Identifies own first name in writing
Looks at pictures and tells a story
Recognizes shapes and colors
Counts to 10
Can count objects

Children are more likely to succeed in kindergarten if they...

- Can write their name, know the letters in their name and recognize their name in print
- Can identify colors
- Know the parts of their body
- Have been read to regularly and understand that we read from left to right and top to bottom on a page (point with your fingers as you read)
- Can count objects and recognize most numerals between 1 and 10
- Know how to sing the alphabet song and have been exposed to upper and lower case letters
- Know their birthday
- Know their first and last name
- Know their phone number and address
- Can cut with scissors on a drawn line
- Know how to use Crayons and glue
- Are accustomed to conversations with parents and are talked with (not to)
- Have been exposed to rhymes, opposites, alliteration and directional words such as front/back and top/bottom
- Follow two or three step directions
- Have been on outings to the library, airport, zoo and park
- Have experience in taking turns when playing and talking
- Use words such as please, thank you, and excuse me
- Have been allowed to do things for themselves
- Have been told and experienced that mistakes are OKAY
- Have had experiences with other children



Hillsborough Early Childhood Association