

School Readiness and Your Child

These are some of the skills that are helpful for children to know before entering kindergarten.

Jefferson County Public Schools recognizes that children develop and learn things at different rates and times. These are recommended skills. Please remember that the only prerequisite for entering kindergarten is that a child is 5 years old on or before **October 1**.

- Sorts and classifies objects
- Notices similarities and differences
- Identifies basic colors
- Counts in a sequence up to 30
- Counts sets of objects up to 10
- Matches objects with numerals up to 10
- Recognizes, names, and copies basic shapes (including circle, square, triangle, rectangle)
- Asks such questions as who, what, when, where, why, and how
- Understands simple concepts of time (night and day, today, yesterday, tomorrow)



- Eats a balanced diet
- Gets plenty of rest
- Receives all required immunizations and medical exams (physical, dental, and vision)
- Runs, jumps, climbs, and does other activities that develop large muscles and provide exercise
- Uses pencils, crayons, scissors, and paints and does other activities that help develop small muscles

General Knowledge and Mathematics

Health and Physical Well-Being



- Uses the toilet without help
- Fastens and unfastens own clothing (zippers, shoes, jackets) without assistance
- Feeds self using utensils
- Helps put away toys or clothes
- Keeps track of personal belongings
- Covers mouth or nose when sneezing or coughing

Self-Help Skills



- Plays and shares with other children
- Follows simple rules and routines
- Expresses own needs and wants
- Shows curiosity and motivation to learn
- Explores and tries new things
- Separates easily from parents and family
- Works well alone
- Attends to tasks and seeks help when encountering a problem

Social and Emotional Development



Language and Communication Development



- Speaks in five- to six-word sentences
- Sings simple songs
- Recognizes and says simple rhymes
- Knows own full name
- Reads and writes own name
- Knows home address, phone number, and birthday

- Knows how books work
- Knows the difference between print and pictures
- Knows that books are read from front to back
- Knows that print moves from left to right, top to bottom
- Recognizes familiar print from surroundings (traffic signs; store logos, such as Kmart, McDonald's, and Walmart; food labels)

- Listens to and responds to stories read to them
- Uses scribbles and drawings to express ideas
- Uses pictures to tell a story
- Recites the letters of the alphabet
- Identifies upper- and lowercase letters of the alphabet

Access additional resources for kindergarten readiness at <http://ready4k.jefferson.kyschools.us>.