

Kindergarten Ready

The following are some key areas children should know prior to entering kindergarten. These skills will provide your child with a strong foundation to build from.

Social/ Emotional/ Behavioral Skills

- Understand and express their own emotions
- Able to identify other people's emotions
- Follows rules
- Able to interact with adults and peers in socially appropriate ways
- Can share and take turns
- Follow group plan

Cognitive Skills

- Recognizes name in print
- Follows routine and simple instructions
- Recognizes at least half of uppercase letters in the alphabet
- Count to 20
- Recognize numbers to 10
- Understand basic patterns
- Identify shapes and colors
- Can sort objects based on attributes
- Pays attention for 5 to 10 minutes during activity
- Writes some letters in name

Language/Communication Skills

- Tells a story with at least two events
- Answers simple questions about a book or story
- Has conversations with more than three back-and-forth exchanges
- Uses or recognizes simple rhymes
- Asks and answers questions
- Understands simple prepositions (e.g., in, on, under)

Physical and Motor Skills

- Uses utensils properly
- Balance on one foot
- Throw and catch a ball
- Builds with blocks
- Zip and unzip zipper

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- Use pencil and scissors
- Button and unbutton some buttons

Adaptive Skills (Independence/ Self-care Skills)

- Use the bathroom themselves
- Wash hands after using the bathroom
- Dress and undress oneself
- Brush teeth
- Open and close containers
- Manage personal belongings
- Clean up after playtime
- Pour drink
- Completes simple chores, like putting plate at sink after a meal

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Sources

[Brighter Futures Indiana](#)

[Center for Disease Control and Prevention](#)