



## Parent Services February Tip Sheet

### TRANSITION TO KINDERGARTEN

#### BOOKS TO READ TO HELP YOUR CHILD PREPARE FOR KINDERGARTEN:

*Clifford Goes to Kindergarten*, Norman Bridwell

*Miss Bindergarten Gets Ready for Kindergarten*, Joseph Slate

*Mom, It's My First Day of Kindergarten*, Hyewon Yum

*Pete the Cat: Rocking in My School Shoes*, Eric Litwin

*Seven Little Mice Go to School*, Kazuo Iwamura

*Yoko Learns to Read*, Rosemary Wells

#### Kindergarten Readiness Checklist

| Not at all | Learning | Mastered | Skill   |
|------------|----------|----------|---|
|            |          |          | <b>TALKING AND LISTENING</b>  |
|            |          |          | Speaks in complete sentences with a subject and a verb                            |
|            |          |          | Understands and follows 2 step directions   |
|            |          |          | Starts conversations with both peers and adults                                   |
|            |          |          | Asks why, how, when, where, who questions   |
|            |          |          | <b>PERSONAL AWARENESS</b>   |
|            |          |          | Knows first and last name   |
|            |          |          | Identifies self as a boy or a girl  |
|            |          |          | Identifies age  |
|            |          |          | Demonstrates independence with washing hands, getting dressed, using the bathroom |
|            |          |          | Separates from parent without difficulty  |
|            |          |          | Recognizes dangers: hot stove, moving traffic, strangers, etc.                    |
|            |          |          | Asks adults for help with needed  |
|            |          |          | <b>MOTOR ACTIVITIES</b>   |
|            |          |          | Hops at least 5 times on each foot without holding on                             |
|            |          |          | Balances on each foot for 10 seconds without holding on                           |
|            |          |          | Catches a ball  |
|            |          |          | Throws a ball   |
|            |          |          | Cuts a straight line with scissors  |
|            |          |          | Writes their name   |
|            |          |          | Draws a circle, line, square  |
|            |          |          | <b>LEARNING ACTIVITIES</b>  |
|            |          |          | Matches two like pictures in a set of five  |
|            |          |          | Classifies objects into like groups by color, shape, size                         |
|            |          |          | Repeats songs, nursery rhymes   |
|            |          |          | Retells a story   |
|            |          |          | Completes puzzles   |
|            |          |          | Names at least 5 colors   |
|            |          |          | Identifies a circle, square and triangle  |
|            |          |          | <b>LETTERS AND NUMBERS</b>  |
|            |          |          | Says ABCs and can count to 20   |
|            |          |          | Recognizes and names at least 10 letters of alphabet, not in order                |
|            |          |          | Matches at least 3 letters with a picture of an item with that beginning sound    |
|            |          |          | Recognizes signs in environment (McDonalds, stop sign, Walmart, etc.)             |
|            |          |          | Identifies two words that rhyme   |
|            |          |          | Identifies numbers 1-10, not in order   |
|            |          |          | Counts at least 5 objects   |

# TIPS FROM THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE EDUCATION OF YOUNG CHILDREN

## Before School Starts

- Send a note to teacher and nurse if your child has allergies.
- Visit the school and meet the teacher.
  - Start the school routine early.
    - Label everything.
    - Read books about starting school.

## First Day of School

- Be Positive.
- Help your child say goodbye.
- Avoid behaviors that might upset your child.
  - Wait to ask the teacher your specific questions.

## First Week of School

- Be supportive.
- Instill a sense of confidence in your child.
- Set aside time to talk about your child's day.
- Read everything the school sends home.
  - Enjoy being the parent of a kindergartener!

Tips from the article, "Transitioning to Kindergarten", by Janis Strasser for the National Association for the Education of Young Children.  
<https://www.naeyc.org/our-work/families/transitioning-to-kindergarten>.

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