

Kindergarten Readiness Checklist

A practical six-domain checklist for families preparing for kindergarten

Child: _____

Date: _____

Kindergarten year: _____

Use this to notice skills, not to pass or fail your child.

Unchecked boxes show what to observe or practice next. Independent reading is not required before kindergarten.

SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL

- ☐ Takes turns during simple games
- ☐ Plays with or alongside other children
- ☐ Follows familiar rules and routines
- ☐ Asks adults for help
- ☐ Handles small frustrations with support
- ☐ Participates in short group activities

LANGUAGE

- ☐ Holds a back-and-forth conversation
- ☐ Tells a simple story with connected events
- ☐ Answers questions about a story
- ☐ Expresses wants and needs clearly
- ☐ Understands familiar directions
- ☐ Recognizes simple rhymes

EARLY LITERACY

- ☐ Recognizes some letters
- ☐ Is beginning to connect letters and sounds
- ☐ Enjoys books and stories
- ☐ Understands that print carries meaning
- ☐ Attempts to write some letters
- ☐ Writes some letters in their name

EARLY MATH

- ☐ Counts to 10
- ☐ Counts small groups of objects
- ☐ Names some numbers from 1 to 5
- ☐ Compares more and less
- ☐ Recognizes common shapes
- ☐ Notices simple patterns

MOTOR

- ☐ Draws using crayons, pencils, or markers
- ☐ Manipulates small objects and learning tools
- ☐ Attempts simple buttons or fasteners
- ☐ Runs and climbs with control
- ☐ Hops on one foot
- ☐ Participates in active games

SELF-CARE

- ☐ Recognizes personal belongings
- ☐ Attempts to manage a coat or backpack
- ☐ Eats with growing independence
- ☐ Communicates bathroom or other needs
- ☐ Helps clean up after activities
- ☐ Completes simple daily tasks with reminders