



READY-FOR-SCHOOL CHECKLIST

The following checklist, although not exhaustive, can help to guide you as you prepare your child for school. It's best to look at the items on the list as goals toward which to aim. They should be accomplished, as much as possible, through everyday routines or by enjoyable activities that you've planned with your child. If your child lags behind in some areas, don't worry. Remember that children grow and develop at different rates.

Good Health and Physical Well-Being

My child:

- Eats a balanced diet
- Gets plenty of rest
- Receives regular medical and dental care
- Has had all the necessary immunizations
- Runs, jumps, plays outdoors and does other activities that develop large muscles
- Works puzzles, scribbles, colors, paints and does other activities that help develop small muscles

Social and Emotional Preparation

- Is learning to explore and try new things
- Is learning to work well alone and to do many tasks on their own
- Has many opportunities to be with other children and is learning to cooperate with them
- Is curious and motivated to learn
- Is learning to finish tasks
- Is learning to use self-control
- Can follow simple instructions
- Helps with family chores

Language and General Knowledge

- Has many opportunities to talk and listen
- Is read to most every day
- Has access to books and other reading materials
- Is learning about print and books
- Has television viewing monitored by an adult
- Is encouraged to ask questions
- Is encouraged to solve problems
- Has opportunities to notice similarities and differences
- Is encouraged to sort and classify things
- Is learning to write their name and address
- Is learning to count and plays counting games
- Is learning to identify and name shapes and colors
- Has opportunities to draw, listen to and make music and to dance
- Has opportunities for first-hand experiences to use all their senses