

# The Readiness Checklist

During children's early years, families and child care providers can ensure children are prepared for school by helping children develop the skills listed here.

## Listening and Speaking

- Follow multiple step directions
- Listen and respond to conversation
- Speak using multiple word sentences
- Ask and answer questions

## Social and Emotional Skills

- Independently use the bathroom and wash hands
- Greet others and say please, thank you, and excuse me
- Share with others
- Show respect for self, others, and authority
- Communicate feelings, thoughts, and needs
- Follow classroom routines



## Book Handling and Directionality

- Hold books appropriately
- Understand that print contains a message
- Understand that print moves from left to right and top to bottom

## Story Sense/Comprehension

- Make predictions based on pictures and background knowledge
- Retell portions of stories with some understanding of sequence
- Understand the concept of an author and an illustrator
- Make personal connections to stories
- Understand fantasy versus reality
- Identify the beginning and end of a story
- Understand varying types of genres
- Comprehend stories
- Identify characters, events, and problems
- Able to repeat sentences and refrains in books

## A B C D E F

## Letters and Words

- Recognize and write (capital and lower case) their name
- Identify letters of the alphabet
- Sort letters by name and similar shapes
- Link sounds and symbols
- Name rhyming words
- Clap syllables with assistance
- Recognize common words (such as *I*, *and*, *the*, *with*, *is*, and *in*)
- Recognize print in everyday environments (traffic signs, cereal boxes, etc.)
- Understand the difference between a letter and a word

## Writing

- Draw recognizable detailed pictures
- Explain pictures
- Form letters from top to bottom
- Label pictures and objects
- Attempt to spell words using invented spelling
- Understand that print conveys a message

## Mathematics

- Understand the difference between letters and numbers
- Identify colors, shapes, and AB patterns
- Show some sense of different and alike
- Match and sequence objects and pictures
- Count to ten
- Demonstrate one to one correspondence in counting to ten
- Solve puzzles
- Understand simple graphs
- Sort objects



## Fine and Gross Motor Skills

- Hop, skip, and jump
- Button, tie, snap, and zip
- Hold writing, cutting, and eating utensils appropriately
- Cut, glue, and color
- Dress independently (coat, shoes, boots, etc.)

# Is Your Child Ready for Kindergarten?

**ERIE**   
**TOGETHER**  
LEARN • WORK • THRIVE

## Fun Things to Do with Your Child

**Turn chores like laundry into learning activities. Ask your child to identify colors, or count the number of socks.**

Develop Language, Math & Social skills

**Play the "I Spy Game." Say "I spy something red." Let your child guess what it is.**

Develop Listening, Math & Social skills



**Encourage your child to play. Let them sort, stack and match, whether it's silverware, buttons, stones or socks.**

Develop Math skills

**Talk, sing and read to your child. Your child learns by hearing sounds and words at any age. The more you talk, the more they learn.**

Develop Listening & Comprehension skills

**Take a walk together and then follow it up with a book, song, or rhyme about what you experienced.**

Develop Listening, Comprehension, Letters/Words & Motor skills



**During the next grocery trip, have your child assist you in matching the coupon with the item.**

Develop Math & Social skills

**Read with your child every day, whether it's a book, traffic sign, grocery list, newspaper or a cereal box.**

Develop Listening, Comprehension & Letters/Words skills

**Using a paper plate, encourage your child to draw different faces, or use face parts cut from magazines, and then glue them to the paper plate.**

Develop Social & Motor skills

**Ask your child questions that can't be answered by just "yes" or "no." Instead of just asking "Do you see that pretty bird?" add "What other things fly?"**

Develop Listening & Speaking skills

Visit [www.ErieTogether.org](http://www.ErieTogether.org) for more ideas, as well as other resources designed to help you prepare your child for kindergarten.