Help your child succeed in school

Being “ready” means more than counting and saying the alphabet.

• Does your child know that the letters make sounds?
• Does she know that words are made of those letter sounds?
• He can count to 10, but does he understand “more than” and “less than”?

Talk with your child every chance you get!

Do these 10 things every day!

1. Show him you are learning, too. Tell him what you learned today.
2. Encourage her to try something new and help her do it well.
3. At bedtime, read a story and discuss it. What was his favorite part? Why?
4. Look at signs and point out letters on them and the sounds they make.
5. Have her sort and arrange things like forks and spoons, coins or laundry.
6. Look around for something new to count. Look for numbers and talk about what they mean.
7. Listen for what she likes, and help her learn more about it.
8. Limit screen time. Encourage him to make up his own games, such as playing pretend.
9. Tell her what she is good at, and encourage her to do even more.
10. Show your love and say at least three positives for every negative.

Will your child be ready for kindergarten?
# How is my child doing?

## Skills that kindergarten teachers are looking for:

### Social and emotional

1. Expresses feelings appropriate to the situation
2. Knows own preferences and abilities
3. Can suggest simple solutions to conflict
4. Can follow rules and routines

### Language

5. Recognizes 3-5 letters (upper case and lower case)
6. Recognizes name or other words in print
7. Makes beginning sounds in short words
8. Matches 6-10 letters with their sounds
9. Remembers details from stories
10. Uses cover and pictures to talk about a book
11. Writes own name, with most letters correct
12. Plans and tells, draws, or writes a story
14. Responds appropriately to directions and questions
15. Talks with familiar adults and peers
16. Uses good English in conversation

### Math

17. Counts to 20
18. Knows written numbers from 1 to 10
19. Understands simple addition and subtraction
20. Names squares, circles, triangles and rectangles
21. Describes the order of objects (first, next to)
22. Compare two objects (bigger, taller, heavier)
23. Sorts, counts and compares quantities

### Approaches to learning

24. Shows interest in new experiences
25. Acts out familiar story lines, gives out and/or takes on roles
26. Sticks with chosen activities, even when they get hard
27. Breaks tasks into steps and does them one at a time

### Physical development

28. Tries to solve problems in different ways, gets needed help
29. Handles small objects
30. Moves whole body with confidence

---

These 30 skills are based on the PA Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) Kindergarten Entry Inventory project. Our work is supported by a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. For more information, contact DVAEYC: kindergartenready@dvaeyc.org, 215-893-0130, or www.dvaeyc.org.