

# My child is ready to start Kindergarten...now what?

Here is a summer "to do" list to ready your child for their first day of Kindergarten:

## **Self Help Skills**

- Can use bathroom independently and complete accompanying hygiene tasks
- Able to dress self (puts on coat, fastens snaps, buttons, and zippers)
- Ties own shoes- if not please wear Velcro or slip on shoes
- States full name and age

## **Social/Emotional Skills**

- Separates from caregivers without excessive upset
- Plays/shares with other children
- Waits his/her turn
- Attends to an adult-directed task for at least 5 minutes
- Recognizes and responds to other people's feelings
- Uses "please" and "thank you"
- Be able to sit on carpet for short periods of time

## **Language Skills (Expressive and Receptive)**

- Expresses needs and wants verbally
- Uses words, not physical action, to express emotions such as anger or disappointment
- Understands and follows two-step directions
- Understands positional vocabulary (i.e. on top of, below, next to)

## **Fine Motor Skills**

- Holds pencil/crayon in a non-fisted grip
- Able to control scissors to complete an intentional task
- Traces lines and basic shapes
- Copies basic figures such as circle, square, and a straight line
- Open containers/ snack packages
- Be familiar with using a glue stick

## **Math Skills**

- Counts from 1 to 10
- Recognizes/points to/identifies basic shapes (square, circle, triangle, rectangle)
- Beginning to count with one-to-one correspondence
- Can sort items by one or more attributes
- Identifies, either verbally or by pointing to, colors of crayons in the 8-count box (black, blue, brown, green, orange, red, purple, yellow)

## **Literacy/Phonemic Awareness Skills**

- Enjoys being read to/listening to stories
- Recognizes environmental print (familiar logos, signs, and words)
- Knows how to handle a book (i.e. holds book right side up, knows where it starts and ends)
- Recites the alphabet
- Knows some upper and lower case letters and the sounds they make
- Recognizes own name in print
- Able to discern whether or not two words rhyme, may be able to provide a third rhyme for the words
- Can write own name or other ideas by using symbols or letters
- Can draw a picture to express an idea