

1,000 Books Before KINDERGARTEN

Wells County Public Library

Books 801-900

Skills Often Expected at the Beginning of Kindergarten - The list below shows some of the skills that kindergarteners will be developing over the year. You can help by practicing some of these together ahead of time!

That said, don't put too much pressure on your child — or on yourself. Keep in mind that this list simply includes guidelines; the exact expectations may vary from program to program.

- Identify some letters of the alphabet
- Grip a pencil, crayon, or marker correctly (with the thumb and forefinger supporting the tip)
- Write first name using upper- and lowercase letters, if possible
- Count to ten
- Classify objects according to their size, shape, and quantity
- Speak using complete sentences
- Recognize some common sight words like "stop"
- Use scissors, glue, paint, and other art materials with relative ease

- Identify rhyming words
- Repeat full name, address, phone number, and birthday
- Play independently or focus on one activity with a friend for up to 10 minutes
- Manage bathroom needs
- Get dressed
- Follow directions
- Clean up after self
- Listen to a story without interrupting
- Separate from parents easily

Don't panic if your child hasn't nailed everything on the list: Kids learn a lot in kindergarten. What's more important is to wean children from relying on you to do things they could do themselves, such as zipping a jacket or tying shoes. Give your child the chance to show you what they can do — you might be in for a few surprises!

(adapted from the article Is Your Child Ready for Kindergarten? The Skills They will Need This Fall from www.scholastic.com/parents/school-success)

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SINGING - Share songs that tell a story like *Mary Had A Little Lamb*.

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TALKING - Make animals sounds and point out environmental sounds.

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READING - Share books with alliteration and rhyming words. (Ask a librarian for suggestions.)



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PLAYING - Do puzzles to help children develop problem solving skills.



GETTING READY TO READ - When are you reading to your child, sometimes let them hold the book and turn the pages so she will understand how a book works.



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Great job!

Come into the library to get your prize and next set of pages so that you can keep going.



Message from your librarian	Initials	Date	Stamp