



READY TOGETHER PREP

PREPARE TODAY. THRIVE TOMORROW

FREE KINDERGARTEN READINESS CHECKLIST

A PRACTICAL GUIDE FOR PARENTS & TEACHERS

Simple steps. Confident kids.
Successful starts.



ACADEMIC SKILLS

Build a strong
foundation for learning.



SOCIAL EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Grow confidence,
kindness & independence.



LANGUAGE & COMMUNICATION

Encourage listening,
speaking & understanding.



LIFE SKILLS

Foster independence
for every success.



Made by a
teacher

READYTOGETHERPREP.COM



PREPARE
TODAY



THRIVE
TOMORROW



LASTING
CONFIDENCE

READY TOGETHER PREP
Kindergarten Readiness Checklist

Social & Emotional Skills

- ☐ Separates from parents or caregivers without prolonged distress
- ☐ Expresses feelings and needs verbally ("I'm hungry", "I need help")
- ☐ Shares, takes turns, and plays cooperatively with peers
- ☐ Sits and listens to a short story (5–10 minutes)
- ☐ Follows two-step instructions ("Put your shoes away and wash your hands")

Self-Care & Independence

- ☐ Uses the bathroom completely independently (wiping, flushing, washing hands)
- ☐ Puts on their own coat, backpack, and shoes (velcro is highly recommended!)
- ☐ Opens and closes their own lunchbox, water bottle, and snack packaging
- ☐ Cleans up toys and supplies when asked

Motor Skills

- ☐ Holds a pencil or crayon with a functional grip (using fingers, not a fist)
- ☐ Holds scissors correctly and makes basic cuts or snips in paper
- ☐ Writes, or attempts to write, their own first name
- ☐ Jumps, runs, climbs, and attempts to catch a large ball

Academic Foundations

- ☐ Recognizes their own first name in print (to find their cubby)
- ☐ Identifies 10–15 uppercase or lowercase letters
- ☐ Counts aloud from 1 to 10 in the correct order
- ☐ Identifies basic colors and shapes (circle, square, triangle)

Emergent Literacy & Language

- ☐ Name Writing: Writes their first name using a capital letter for the first letter and lowercase letters for the rest.
- ☐ Letter Recognition: Identifies all or most uppercase letters and at least half of the lowercase letters out of order.
- ☐ Letter Sounds: Connects at least 5–10 letters to their corresponding sounds (e.g., knows "B" says buh).
- ☐ Rhyming Awareness: Identifies whether two words rhyme when spoken aloud (e.g., cat and hat).
- ☐ Book Mechanics: Understands how to hold a book right-side up and knows that text is read from left to right, top to bottom.
- ☐ Story Retelling: Listens to a short story and can describe what happened first, next, and last.

Foundational Mathematics

- ☐ Rote Counting: Counts aloud from 1 to 20 (or higher) without skipping numbers.
- ☐ One-to-One Correspondence: Points to objects one by one while counting them up to 10 ("1, 2, 3..."), rather than just rushing through the numbers.
- ☐ Quantity Recognition (Subitizing): Instantly recognizes the number of objects in a small group (up to 4) without counting them individually.

- [] Shape Identification: Recognizes and names basic 2D shapes (circle, square, triangle, rectangle, oval, star).
- [] Patterning: Identifies, copies, or extends a simple alternating pattern (e.g., red, blue, red, blue).
- [] Comparative Concepts: Understands and uses words like bigger/smaller, more/less, and taller/shorter.

Teacher Tip on Academic Pressure: If your child hasn't mastered all of these yet, please don't drill them with flashcards. At this age, the best way to build these academic muscles is through play and daily routines. Count the blue cars you see while driving, point out letters on cereal boxes, and read together every single night!

Ready for more than a checklist? Get our Kindergarten Ready Curriculum Bundle and turn readiness into real results.

[Kindergarten Ready Curriculum Bundle](#)