

What can I do?

Fun and interesting activities should be part of a family's routine. There are many activities which you and your child engage in during each day that can be excellent learning experiences for your child. The important thing to remember is to support your child's curiosity, imagination, and sense of wonder as they encounter each new learning experience. Talk to your child. Talking builds brain connections, language and listening skills, and prepares your child for reading.

Read to your child.

- Brain cells make connections as a child hears words, looks at pictures, and sees letters.
- Hold your child close and talk to them about the pictures, the story, and the book's features.
- Ask questions. What do you think will happen next? What did you like best about the story? The least?
- Reading with your children is one of the most important things parents can do to support their beginning reading development.

Allow opportunities for your child to:

- Sing and play
- Learn rhymes
- "Read" books
- Write notes, lists, stories
- Help you shop
- Help you do chores
- Explore and talk about the outside world
- Listen to a story and draw a picture. Talk about it.

Spend time with your child. Show patience with your child. Virtually every activity during your child's day can be a learning experience.

Wallingford-Swarthmore School District Elementary Schools

Nether Providence Elementary
410 Moore Road
Wallingford, PA 19086
(610)874-5235

Swarthmore-Rutledge School
100 College Avenue
Swarthmore, PA 19081
(610)544-5700

Wallingford Elementary
20 South Providence Road
Wallingford, PA 19086
(610)565-7845

Wallingford-Swarthmore School District



Kindergarten Readiness:

What can I do to help my child get ready for Kindergarten?

Kindergarten Readiness @ WSSD

Introduction

No list of kindergarten readiness skills can ensure that a child will be ready to begin school or should be used as a sole source for making decisions about kindergarten entry, but we intend this list to be a good start. **Not every skill must be acquired before entering kindergarten, and your child's teacher will work hard to meet any needs your child may have.** This list is a guide to help reassure parents and give valuable insight about kindergarten readiness to support parents' intuition and experiences with their own children. If you have specific concerns about your child's readiness, age, and/or maturity level you may want to talk with your child's preschool teacher, child care provider and/or pediatrician who may have valuable input. Additionally, you can contact us to review your child's screening results, discuss questions and review specific skills.



A Kindergarten student...

- Listens attentively to stories
- Pays attention for short periods of time to adult-directed tasks
- Cuts straight and curved lines with scissors
- Traces basic shapes
- Shares with others
- Follows rules
- Shows respect to adults and peers
- Plays cooperatively with other children
- Manages self-care needs: bathroom, dressing, backpack, blowing nose
- Shows self-control by staying within own personal space
- Separates from parents without being upset
- Speaks understandably in sentences
- Identifies colors
- Recognizes and writes own name
- Follows 2-3 step directions
- Looks at pictures and then tells a story about them
- Recognizes rhyming sounds
- Identifies the beginning sounds of some words
- Identifies some letters of the alphabet (upper and lower case)
- Sorts objects by color, shape, and size
- Recognizes groups of one to five objects
- Counts to ten and identifies some numbers
- Demonstrates large motor skills such as hopping, catching a ball and using alternating feet to walk up and down stairs
- Knows address and phone number

Adapted from Kindergarten Readiness Checklist - Family Education.com

