

Preparing Your Child for Kindergarten: A Kindergarten Readiness Guide



Child's Name: _____

We want to officially welcome all of you to the 2019-2020 school year! The faculty and staff of Galewood Early Elementary School are already busily preparing for the arrival of your child, as well as for an exciting year of learning and growth.

The early childhood years are critical times of development for students and families, and we look forward to working with each of you in order to ensure our students aspire to greatness. We wanted to take a few moments to share with you this Kindergarten Readiness Guide. It has been prepared to help you better understand what your child should know to help make starting school a wonderful experience. As your child's first teacher, you play an important role in your child's development and learning! Everything you and your child do together will teach important lessons that will help them grow and learn about their world. Learning happens in the everyday moments that you share with your child. We hope this guide will prove useful to each of you.

Please spend time over the next five months reading to your child daily and practicing the skills listed below. When your child shows understanding of skill at least 80% of the time, place an "X" in the appropriate column.

Have your child return this completed guide to school during the first few weeks of the school year to win a prize!

Letters and Words

	April	May	June	July	August
I can sing my ABC's.					
I can recognize most of my ABC's.					
I know some sounds the letters make.					
I can recognize my first and last name.					
I can write my name using upper case and lower case letters.					
I can read environmental print. (McDonald's, Target, Walmart, Meijer, STOP, EXIT).					

Language

	April	May	June	July	August
I can speak in complete sentences.					
I can follow 2 step directions.					
I know some nursery rhymes.					
I can answer simple 5W+1 questions (who, what, when, where, why and how).					
I can tell things that go together (spoon and fork are for eating; pigs live on farms).					
I can participate in a conversation longer than 3 minutes.					
I can use my words to tell how I am feeling.					
I can say "please" and "thank you" without being reminded.					
I can remember not to interrupt when others are talking.					
I can sometimes remember to say "excuse me."					

Reading Books

	April	May	June	July	August
I like to read books and have books read to me.					
I can hold a book correctly.					
I know that books are read from front to back, and from left to right.					
I can retell my favorite stories.					
I know the characters, setting and problem/solution; author and illustrator of the book.					
I am able to sequence the main events in the story.					
I am beginning to predict what happens next in the story.					
I can listen to a story.					
I can look at pictures and make up my own story.					

Fine and Gross Motor Skills

	April	May	June	July	August
I can use crayons, pencils, and scissors appropriately.					
I can draw basic shapes (circles, squares) and lines.					
I can draw illustrations to express ideas.					
I can clean up when I am finished with a task.					
I can color within the lines.					
I can put puzzles together.					
I can turn pages of a book without tearing pages.					
I can use glue without too much mess.					
I can play with small toys such as wooden beads and pegs.					
I can walk up and down steps.					
I can bounce a ball three times in a row.					
I can play catch with a large ball.					
I can kick a ball.					
I can hop on either foot.					
I can jump forward and land on both feet.					
I can stand on each foot for 5 seconds.					
I can stand on two feet with hands on my hips, and bend forward, backward and sideways.					
I can use my hands to touch my shoulders, head, knees and toes.					
I can clap hands to music.					

Social Skills

	April	May	June	July	August
I can listen to adults.					
I can follow oral directions.					
I can play without hitting, kicking, biting, etc.					
I can sit for short periods of time (etc. 15 minutes) and maintain focus.					
I can take turns with other children.					
I can share with others.					
I can control my behavior without outbursts, temper tantrums or aggressive actions.					
I am helpful, cooperative, and show concern for others.					
I can play board games and card games. *Understanding that I sometimes lose.					

Numeracy, Shapes, Patterns

	April	May	June	July	August
I can identify numbers by name to 10.					
I can count to 20.					
I can count backward from 10.					
I can name colors.					
I can name shapes (circle, square, triangle, and rectangle).					
I can sort objects (by shape, color, texture, etc.).					
I understand more/less, small/large, thick/thin, over/under, etc.					
I can describe objects as hard, soft, cold, sticky, fuzzy and round.					

Dressing and Self-Care Skills

	April	May	June	July	August
I can wash my hands myself.					
I can blow my nose myself; cover a sneeze.					
I can dress myself (zip coat, fasten shoes, button, snap, buckle, tie, etc.).					
I can ask for help when I need it.					
I can adjust to new situations without family members being there; I can separate easily without tears.					
I respect the feelings, rights and belongings of others.					
I play cooperatively with others.					
I can use the bathroom by myself (wipe and wash). *This skill <i>does</i> need to be mastered.					
I can eat neatly with a fork, spoon and use a napkin.					
I can finish eating in a reasonable amount of time .					

Other Important Skills Your Child Should Know

	April	May	June	July	August
I know my first, middle and last name.					
I know how old I am.					
I know my home phone number.					
I know my mom's and father's first and last names.					
I know the names of my brother(s) and sister(s).					
I know my address including house number and street name.					
I know the emergency phone number "9-1-1."					

