



# Kindergarten Skills

from A to Z

## can you tell if i'm ready?

**Alphabet Knowledge** **Aa** Identifies letters, recognizes that letters have sounds; can recognize own name or other common words in print.

**Books** **Bb** Understands a book is read from front to back, a page from top to bottom, text from left to right and print has meaning. Demonstrates, with increasing independence, enjoyment of literacy and literacy-related activities.

**Concepts** **Cc** Compares objects by length, weight, or capacity directly (i.e., putting objects side by side) or indirectly (i.e., using a third object); order four or more objects by size. Identifies positions of objects and people in space, including in/on/under, up/down, inside/outside, beside/between, in front/behind.

**Draws** **Dd** Uses free-form lines and scribbles to draw pictures and words. Draws circles, triangles, rectangles, squares and other shapes; combines different shapes to create a picture or design.

**Environmental Print** **Ee** Recognizes signs, billboards, labels, business logos.

**Fine Motor Skills** **Ff** Uses small manipulatives (crayons, pencils, scissors).

**Gross Motor Skills** **Gg** Runs, jumps, hops, catches, throws and kicks a ball.

**Healthy Habits** **Hh** Practices personal hygiene routines; knows what foods are good for him/her.

**Independence** **Ii** Shows active, intentional self-control and motivation to cooperate with others. Maintains well-being while apart from primary family or primary caregiver; comfortably departs from primary family figures.

**Judgement** **Jj** Has an opinion about why people act or feel differently. Begins to understand differences in personality, temperament, and background.

**Knowledge of Diversity** **Kk** Uses gestures or actions to include children in play who speak another language; moves items out of way for someone in a wheelchair; explains what is said by an adult to a child who does not understand.

**Listening** **Ll** Follows 3-step directions; waits for own turn; can attend or focus for more than 15 minutes.

**Math** **Mm** Identifies and applies a variety of mathematical strategies to solve problems in their environment. Begins to extend and create simple repeating patterns; recognizes and duplicates simple repeating patterns.

**Numbers** **Nn** Knows and recognizes the name of some written numerals; recites numbers in order to at least 20 with increasing accuracy. Understands grouping objects together will make a bigger group and taking away objects will make a smaller group.

**Communication** **Oo** Negotiates with others and uses words rather than actions when responding to conflict. Speaks clearly enough to be understood by familiar and unfamiliar adults and children. Uses longer and more complex sentences when communicating; uses reasoning, predicting and problem solving while communicating with others.

**Phonological Awareness** **Pp** Recognizes and uses rhymes or rhyming words; recognizes sounds in language at the beginning or end of words; blends sounds to make new words.

**Questions** **Qq** Questions; initiates making new discoveries; identifies new solutions; and persists in trying to figure things out.

**Respect for Others/ Relationships** **Rr** Recognizes and responds to another's needs with care; regulates their attention, thoughts, feelings and impulses sometimes needing adult guidance. Forms friendships that are reciprocal, exclusive and enduring.

**Self-Help** **Ss** Takes initiative in seeking support from primary family members, teachers and caregivers. Speaks up to express needs such as "I don't have a pencil".

**Taking Turns** **Tt** Wait for his or her turn; waits to be called on in class without disruption; can stand in line.

**Understands Literacy** **Uu** Demonstrates knowledge of details in a familiar story including characters, events; can summarize, predict and retell story using artwork.

**Vocabulary** **Vv** Understands and uses simple and complex words that describe the relations between objects.

**Writes** **Ww** Writes first name correctly (first letter uppercase and remaining letters lowercase) and writes letters or letter-like shapes to represent words or ideas.

**Xylophone** **Xx** Appreciates music and performs rhythmic movements; uses instruments.

**Youthful Enthusiasm** **Yy** Compares own characteristics with others; shows awareness of their thoughts and feelings.

**Zest for Learning** **Zz** Is excited about learning new things; comes to school well rested and prepared to learn.