



DRAGONS

Nathanael Greene Primary School

Preparing for Kindergarten

Teachers recognize that each child is an individual and enters kindergarten with varying experiences. Parents are their child's first teacher and they know their child in ways no one else does. Parents often ask how they can prepare their child for kindergarten. Teachers recommend that the child entering kindergarten have exposure and some understanding of the following concepts or skills:

Language/Literacy

- Speak in complete sentences
- Sing and say ABCs
- Exposure to alphabet (identify most upper case letters)
- Recognize first name (orally and visually)
- Discriminate between letters and numbers
- Print first name with and without a model (first letter capitalized and remaining letters are lower case)
- Print experiences (knows print is read and is organized from left to right and top to bottom; notices/recognizes "environmental print" such as Burger King, Wal-Mart, and McDonalds)
- Write in various ways: e.g. – drawing, scribbling, letter-like forms, "invented" spelling, conventional forms
- Listen to a story attentively without interrupting and answer simple questions related to what they heard
- Hold/handle a book
- Use new vocabulary to express and describe feelings and ideas
- Identify beginning sounds in words
- Understand opposites (hot/cold; slow/fast)
- Understand and demonstrate positional words (below, above, next to)
- Exposure to rhyming words

Math

- Identify the numerals 1-10
- Count to 20
- Count a group of 3-5 objects (1:1 correspondence)
- Understand comparison words (longer, shorter, more, fewer, same)
- Name basic shapes (square, circle, triangle, rectangle)
- Sort and classify objects according to one or two attributes (color, size, shape, texture)
- Identify and extend simple patterns (red, blue, red, blue)

Social Science

- Develop an awareness of the kinds of work people do

Science

- Identify colors (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple, black, white)
- Identify body parts that correspond with the five senses (eyes, nose, ear, mouth, fingers/hand)
- Make observations of change over time (people, animals, plants, seasons, weather)

Motor Skills

- Use correct pencil grasp (crayons, markers)
- Use scissors properly (hold correctly and cut on a line)
- Demonstrate basic moving skills (running, hopping, jumping, walking, skipping)
- Throw and catch a bean bag
- Kick a ball
- Maintain balance on a line

Social/Self-Help Skills

- Put on jacket/coat and fasten properly (button/zip), tie shoes and operate backpack brought to school
- Recognize personal space (keep hands and feet to oneself)
- Say first and last name
- Respect and show concern for people and things
- Express bathroom needs/know how to properly use the bathroom and wash hands
- Able to put toys/materials away
- Listen and follow directions (one-step and two-step); follow classroom rules and classroom routines independently
- Know how to line up and walk in a line
- Able to carry on a conversation with others (children, friends, adults) and take turns in the conversation
- Play, share, and take turns cooperatively with other children; work well in groups
- Express feelings through appropriate gestures, actions, and words
- Pay attention to a task for 10 minutes