Kindergarten Readiness

Children grow and develop in different ways and at different speeds. Your child may have more or less skill in the outlined areas. Use this document as a guide to create opportunities for students to learn and grow!

- Speaks clearly so others can understand their words
  - Takes turns in a conversation
- Plays well with other children
  - Shares with others and is able to take turns
  - Lets an adult know if they need help
  - Uses words to solve differences with peers
- Knows letters and numbers are different
  - Names many letters of the alphabet
  - Makes many of the letter sounds
  - Produces rhyming words
  - Enjoys books and being read to
  - Holds a book properly
  - Writes most of the letters in their name
  - Understands letters can be made into words
  - Knows that words are a way that we can communicate with others
- Is curious about new things or ideas
  - Generates ideas to solve a problem
  - Sorts objects by different features
  - Remembers and retells a family experience
- Counts the number of items in a group
  - Counts out loud, in order, to 10 or more
  - Uses words like “all” and “some” to describe an amount of items
- Holds and uses a pencil with a proper grip
  - Can walk, run and jump
- Goes to the bathroom without help
  - Washes hands after going to the bathroom
  - Puts on his or her own coat and shoes

If you have concerns about your child talk to your preschool teacher, pediatrician or contact ChildFind at 425-837-7197.
For more information visit our website at www.issaquah.wednet.edu/district/early-learning.
How can I help my child prepare for Kindergarten?

Get to Know Your School
Take your child to welcome events at your school or to play on the playground.
Walk to the bus stop before the first day so your child gets familiar with the routine.
Attend the Family Connections meeting that the Kindergarten teacher will schedule with you prior to school starting.

Be Ready for the School Day
Help your child have a good day by keeping a regular schedule. Ensure they are getting enough sleep (9-12 hours) and start their day with a nutritious breakfast.
Stay connected to your child’s classroom including checking your child’s backpack after school for notes and homework.
Support your child to independently complete self-care tasks (putting on and zipping coat, opening food containers, using the bathroom and washing hands)

Set Expectations
Be a good role model by showing your child a positive attitude about school and learning.
Talk with your child about going to Kindergarten and answer any questions that may arise and address any concerns.
Talk with your child about making new friends and meeting people who are different from them.
Talk with your child about how you expect them to behave at school and the importance of respecting teachers, staff, and other students.
Help your child to think of solutions if they have a problem and talk about what they could do in a situation that comes up unexpectedly.

Practice Skills at Home
Read to your child every day whether in English or your home language.
Engage your child in math activities including counting and sorting.
Teach your child their full name, and practice writing their first name.
Use everyday situations to practice taking turns, sharing, and following routines.
Get plenty of exercise and spend time outdoors every day.
Teach and model good hygiene-washing hands after using the restroom, brushing teeth and coughing or sneezing into his/her elbow.
Help your child learn skills to calm themselves (like taking deep breaths or counting to 10) if they are upset. Help them learn to use words to solve problems with others.
Engage in extended conversations with your child. (Ask questions about what they are playing with, what they noticed, etc.)