

Several parents and pre-kindergarten schools have contacted us to ask what children need to know when they enter kindergarten.

Below is a list of suggested skills and information that our kindergarten teachers feel are important for entering students to know. Knowing and using these skills will make the transition to kindergarten smoother and help students be more successful.

Parents, the single most important part of reading readiness is reading to your child. The time you spend reading to your child is time well invested. Just think, in a year or so, your child will be reading to you!!

Ann Kingrea, Principal

**Skills suggested for Preschools  
and Parents of Preschoolers**  
by  
**Northwood Elementary School  
Kindergarten Teachers**

**\*Listed in order of importance**

1. Opportunities and activities that promote social interaction, problem solving, and cooperation (getting along in a classroom setting: sharing, taking turns, etc.)
2. Activities that focus on listening skills and following directions
3. Activities that foster on-task behavior that is developmentally appropriate (finishing projects or centers)
4. Getting children accustomed to following routines in a school setting (sitting in a circle, lining up to go outside, listening to stories, etc.)
5. Correct pencil grip
6. Fine motor skill practice (finger exercises, cutting, etc.)
7. Name recognition and being able to write his/her name (capital then lowercase)
8. Shape and color recognition
9. Number recognition 0-10
10. Letter recognition (sounds, too!)
11. Counting and matching quantities (1-10)
12. Knowing name, address, phone number, birthday, age