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to find out!



IS YOUR CHILD READY FOR KINDERGARTEN?



**A Community Initiative of
the Following Partners:**

Calhoun Community College

Community Action Partnership of North Alabama

Decatur City Schools

Decatur City Schools Foundation

Decatur Heritage Christian Academy

Decatur-Morgan County Chamber of Commerce

Decatur Public Library

Hartselle City Schools

Morgan County Schools

St. Ann Catholic School

For more information about
The Morgan County Pre-K Initiative
contact:

**DECATUR-MORGAN COUNTY
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

at (256) 353-5312

Suggested Kindergarten Readiness Skills

PERSONAL INFORMATION:

- Knows full name
- Knows age
- Knows mother's and father's first name
- Begins to learn address and telephone number
- Begins to learn birth date

READING/LANGUAGE SKILLS:

- Holds a book and turns pages one at a time
- Identifies parts of a book (ex. front, back, title, pictures)
- Pays attention to a short story when it is read and can answer simple questions about it
- Retells parts of a story after listening to it
- Recognizes letters in name
- Identifies rhyming words
- Identifies beginning sounds in words (ex. b says "buh")

WRITING SKILLS:

- Recognizes name
- Writes first name
- Begins to draw pictures that are recognizable
- Works left to right

MATH SKILLS

- Recognizes shapes (ex. square, circle, triangle, rectangle, oval)
- Understands positional words (ex. up, down, behind, beside, in-front, first, middle, last)
- Sorts items by color, shape, size
- Understands words related to size (ex. more, less, big, small, long, short)
- Recognizes colors
- Counts 10 objects
- Counts from 1 to 10
- Begins to recognize numbers 1 to 10
- Extends a simple pattern (ex. red, yellow, red, yellow, red...)

FINE MOTOR SKILLS:

- Holds scissors correctly
- Holds a pencil or crayon correctly
- Cuts with scissors
- Begins to zip, button and snap

GROSS MOTOR SKILLS:

- Runs, jumps, skips, climbs, hops and claps
- Walks backwards
- Walks up and down stairs unassisted
- Begins to bounce, catch, throw, and kick a ball

SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL DEVELOPMENT:

- Solves problems while interacting with peers
- Speaks so an adult can understand
- Plays appropriately with other children
- Follows simple directions
- Waits turn and shares
- Speaks in simple sentences
- Asks questions about things around him/her
- Works for short periods of time without disturbing others
- Cleans up after activities
- Participates in group activities
- Practices self-control
- Exhibits respect for others
- Goes to restroom by himself/herself
- Practices good health habits (ex. washes hands)
- Practices good manners (ex. says "please", "thank you")
- Spends supervised time away from parents or guardians without anxiety
- Obeys rules
- Uses appropriate voice level
- Works independently
- Names body parts (ex. head, arms, legs)
- Begins to make healthy food choices
- Begins to practice personal safety
- Begins to manage time
- Uses fork or spoon at meal time

This is a suggested list of skills that prepare children to be ready for today's kindergarten program. This list was developed by educators and is based on Alabama Performance Standards for 4-Year-Olds. This list can be used by parents and organizations that offer preschool programs.

Due to developmental differences and/or physical capabilities, every child is not expected to master every skill before entering kindergarten. If you have concerns about your child's development, please contact the special education department in your local school district.