

Ways to Help Your Child Get Ready for Kindergarten



K

Kindle kindergarten excitement. Visit the school and playground. Allow your child to use scissors and glue. Expose your child to different art materials - playdough, watercolors, markers, colored chalk and crayons. Consider giving art supplies as gifts.



I

Invite friends to play and help your child build strong friendships. Consider leaving your child with friends, relatives and sitters so he/she will get used to being away from you.



N

Never forgot safety. Teach your child safety rules for the bus and the playground. Teach your child his/her last name, street address and phone number with the area code.



D

Discuss what your child will be learning in school - colors, numbers, shapes and letters. Teach your child to recognize and write his/her name using uppercase and lowercase letters. Ask your child to draw pictures that tell stories.



E

Explore your neighborhood together. Talk about the world in which we live.



R

Review the good behavior expected of your child - following rules, listening and taking turns.



G

Get involved at your child's school. Attend school events. Join the PTO. Volunteer if you can.



A

Answer your child's questions about school. Reassure your child that school is great.



R

Read aloud with your child daily. Visit the public library this summer. Borrow books with audiotapes, use a computer educational website or download a reading app so your child can listen independently. Bring books whenever traveling or waiting since they help to pass the time. Consider giving books as gifts.



T

Turn every day into a learning experience. Work on teaching your child to tie shoelaces, button, snap and zip. Allow your child to dress independently. Let your child help with everyday chores. Provide your child with more responsibilities and ways to become more independent and organized.



E

Encourage good healthy habits - eating well, getting enough sleep, bathing and brushing teeth.



N

Notice the new things that your child is learning to do. Praise your child's efforts, not just the results. Remember that your child is unique and will develop at his/her own pace, regardless of same-aged peers. Most important, enjoy your child and have fun with the learning, development and growth process.