

Kindergarten Readiness Information

DHA Academic Program



While every child is unique and progresses at their own rate, there are key skills and knowledge areas that are important for success in Kindergarten. Please use this guide to evaluate if your child is ready for Kindergarten, as well as identify the skills you can help your child develop in preparation for a successful Kindergarten year.

Language & Communication

- Speaks in complete sentences
- Follows 1 - 2 step instructions
- Understands simple opposites (ex: big/little, hot/cold) and positional words (ex: over/under)
- Retells stories
- Uses words to express feelings

Mathematical Thinking & Skills

- Writes numbers 1 - 10
- Counts to 30
- Copies and names basic geometric shapes

Physical Development

- Holds a pencil or crayon correctly
- Uses scissors to cut shapes and lines
- Runs, jumps, and climbs
- Bounces and throws a ball

Early Literacy

- Prints name with capital and lower case letters
- Identifies all upper case and most lower case letters in random order
- Identifies basic rhyming words (ex: bat/cat)
- Understands that letters make sounds and that print carries meaning

Social & Emotional Development

- Cares for own belongings
- Takes care of bathroom needs independently
- Dresses self independently
- Able to be separated from parents for a full day
- Understands and follows simple rules in a group
- Takes turns and helps others
- Sits and listens to a story
- Focuses on a task

1st Grade Readiness Information

DHA Academic Program



While every child is unique and progresses at their own rate, there are key skills and knowledge areas that are important for success in 1st Grade. In addition to the skills listed on the Kindergarten Readiness document above, please use this guide to evaluate if your child is ready for 1st Grade, as well as identify the skills you can help your child develop in preparation for a successful school year.

Language & Communication

- Follows multi-step instructions
- Asks questions and asks for help when needed
- Uses basic problem solving skills

Mathematical Thinking & Skills

- Recognizes and writes numbers 1 - 20
- Counts from 1 - 100
- Counts a set of objects with 1 to 1 correspondence
- Understands basic addition and subtraction

Literacy

- Identifies all upper case and lower case letters in random order
- Writes upper and lower case letters
- Says all letter sounds, including short and long vowel sounds
- Understands that words are made up of sounds
- Identifies basic sight words
- Reads basic CVC words (ex: hat, dog, fun)
- Builds simple words and sentences

Social Skills

- Sustains attention to a single task for at least 15 - 20 minutes
- Follows rules and routines