

First Grade Readiness Checklist

Social Skills

- Shows confidence in self and demonstrates a sense of self-worth
- Follows rules and routines at home and in kindergarten
- Uses materials purposefully and respectfully
- Comfortably adapts to changes
- Shows eagerness and curiosity as a learner
- Sustains attention to a single task over a period of time
- Works, plays and shares with others
- Interacts easily with familiar adults
- Participates in group activities
- Respects the feelings and rights of others
- Uses words to resolve conflicts
- Seeks adult help when needed

Reading & Comprehension

- Shows independent interest in reading-related activities
- Listens with interest to stories read aloud
- Retells a simple story
- Recognizes the association between spoken and written words
- Recognizes all the letters of the alphabet in order
- Distinguishes between and prints capital and lowercase letters
- Associates letters and sounds
- Distinguishes likenesses and differences of letter sounds in spoken words
- Recognizes rhymes and rhyming patterns
- Makes predictions about a story or passage based on the title and/or pictures
- Identifies words and constructs meaning from picture clues in text
- Identifies basic sight words
- Distinguishes fact from fiction
- Begins to understand basic characteristics of fables, stories and legends
- Identifies story elements of setting, plot, character and conflict (where, when, what, who and why)
- Uses personal perspective in responding to stories, such as relating to characters or situations
- Begins to understand simple punctuation marks (period, question mark, etc.)
- Locates the title, author name, illustrator name and table of contents
- Sorts common words into categories (e.g., food, colors, shapes)

Writing

- Reads and writes own name
- Tells a story using pictures
- Uses letters or shapes to depict words or ideas
- Writes familiar words
- Copies or writes words to convey messages
- Participates in group dictated stories
- Builds simple words and sentences
- Demonstrates left-to-right progression, and top-to-bottom progression
- Handles writing tools correctly

Language & Listening Skills

- Understands and follows simple directions
- Listens to others for short periods of time without interrupting
- Recites nursery rhymes, finger plays and songs
- Participates in discussions and conversations
- Asks questions
- Speaks clearly to convey messages and requests
- Distinguishes between asking and telling
- Distinguishes between formal and informal language (with peers, at home vs. at school)
- Uses complete sentences
- Composes oral stories
- Retells a simple story with basic elements of beginning, middle and end

Numbers, Operations & Problem Solving Skills

- Names numerals 0 through 30
- Writes numerals 0 through 20
- Uses counting skills to add to 10
- Classifies and compares objects
- Recognizes, duplicates and extends patterns and relationships of objects, symbols and shapes
- Collects data and makes records using lists or graphical representations
- Shows interest in solving mathematical problems
- Solves problems by guessing and checking using manipulatives or fingers

Geometry & Measurement

- Becomes familiar with common instruments for measuring time and temperature (e.g., rulers, thermometers)
- Estimates and measures real quantities using non-standard units (blocks or paperclips)
- Understands and uses comparative words (long and short, heavy and light, etc.)

- Identifies, labels and creates a variety of shapes

Math in action: Telling time, counting money

- Shows an understanding of the calendar and time
- Knows the days of the week and months of the year
- Knows the value of a penny, nickel, dime and quarter

Science

- Forms conclusions based on comparisons, sense observations and exploration
- Knows that the Sun supplies heat and light energy to the Earth
- Recognizes basic patterns in weather
- Recognizes how people impact the Earth, including concepts of conservation, recycling and reducing pollution
- Understands that all living things have basic needs
- Distinguishes between living and non-living things
- Recognizes how living things change as they grow and mature
- Compares and describes the structural characteristics of plants and animals
- Distinguishes between types of environments and their inhabitants (hot, cold, wet, dry, etc.)