



Ready for Kindergarten?

- Mastery:** Your child is doing even better than expected on this skill.
- Proficient:** Your child is ready for kindergarten!
- Working Towards:** Your child will benefit from more work in this area.

1. Counting

- Mastery:** Counting to 100+
- Proficient:** Counting to 29 or 39
- Working Towards:** Counting to 12

How to improve: Count anything and everything. Count aloud without counting actual objects. Use an abacus.

Bonus: Count back and forth to 100.

2. The Alphabet

- Mastery** Names all capital and lowercase letters and every letter's sound.
- Proficient:** Names all capital letters and some lower case letters. Names half the sounds.
- Working Towards:** Names only a few capital letters and very few lower case letters. Names only a few sounds.

How to improve: Read alphabet books every day until your child starts pointing out letters he sees on food packages, books, and signs. Do alphabet activities together.

Bonus: Start teaching your child to read. Try This Reading Mama's free Reading the Alphabet curriculum for preschoolers. (thisreadingmama.com)

3. The Bathroom

- Mastery:** Can easily operate all kinds of fasteners on clothing without assistance.
- Proficient:** Is comfortable wearing his or her school clothes and operating the buttons, snaps and zippers in-dependently.
- Working Towards:** Needs help removing and fastening clothing to use the bathroom.

How to improve: Practice wearing school clothes around the house.

4. Name Writing

- **Mastery:** Begins with a capital letter and follows with lowercase letters (first name).
- **Proficient:** Uses all capital letters (first name).
- **Working Towards:** Cannot recognize her name, cannot spell it, or cannot write it.

How to improve: Have your child write his or her name on a large, unlined pad of paper daily. Flip to a new page each day and watch as the name becomes smaller and more readable.

Bonus: Teach your child to write his or her last name.

5. Listening to Books

- **Mastery:** Asks to be read to every day. Will listen to a large stack of picture books and begs for more. Enjoys listening to simple chapter books with good attention. Makes personal connections to stories and answers both simple and complex questions correctly. May be reading some books independently.
- **Proficient:** Enjoys listening to a stack of picture books. Makes personal connections to stories and answers simple questions. May be recognizing a handful of familiar words.
- **Working Towards:** Does not sit for more than 1-2 books at a time. Does not talk about books or ask basic questions and cannot answer simple questions about a story. Usually prefers a screen to a book.

How to improve: Limit screen time and read to your child several times a day if possible.

Things to remember and/or practice:

- *Can my child open up things I pack in the lunch?
- *Phasing out naps- while we might have rest time, it is not time for the kids to take a full nap.
- *Limit after school activities at the beginning of the year- a long day of school followed by a long evening of activities might be too much for your young child.
- *Label everything. With 25 students- hats, gloves, book bags, lunch pails- Students have a lot of things. Please label so we can return them to their original owner.