

# Getting ready for kindergarten is as easy as 1-2-3!

Families need to prepare for kindergarten when children are three to four years of age.

## 1. Verify that your child meets requirements for school.

In order to enter kindergarten, children must:

- Turn five years old on or before September 1.
- Complete an early childhood screening. (Call 763-433-4910 for more information.)
- Have up to date immunizations or proper documentation of exemption from immunizations.
- For bilingual/multilingual families, complete an English Language Assessment at the family welcome center.

## 2. Register your kindergartner.

Review the information provided by the district and your child's school to complete the registration process. Visit: [ahschools.us/enroll](http://ahschools.us/enroll) or call 763-506-1000 for additional information.

## 3. Support your child's academic growth and development.

You are your child's first teacher. Learn how you can support school readiness at home. (Tips on back.) Visit [www.ahschools.us/prepvideos](http://www.ahschools.us/prepvideos) to learn how you can support your child's school readiness.



### What to expect once your child leaves kindergarten:

- Reading books on their own and writing their own stories.
- Counting forward, backward and using pictures and objects to add and subtract.
- Making friends and believing that school is fun, exciting and challenging.

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# You can support school readiness at home.

School readiness tips were compiled by Anoka-Hennepin Schools' curriculum experts. If you have questions about your child's development, contact the Early Childhood Screening office at 763-433-4910.



## Social-Emotional Development

### ● Shows enthusiasm for learning:

- Is your child eager to explore and discover?
- Comfortable asking questions?
- Able to persist when a task is difficult?

### ● Demonstrates independence:

- Does your child take responsibility for personal belongings?\*
- Use the bathroom by him/herself?

### ● Functions in a group situation:

- Can your child take turns in a small or large group?
- Successfully change from one activity to another?
- Get attention appropriately? Follow a routine?
- Works and plays cooperatively with other children and adults.\*

## Cognitive and mathematical thinking

### ● Explores and uses numbers:

- Can your child count forward to 20 and count backward from five?\*
- Count 20 objects accurately.
- Recognize some printed numbers?

### ● Recognizes basic shapes and colors:

- Can your child name and recognize a circle, square, triangle, and rectangle?
- Name and identify a variety of colors?

### Parent resources:

 [www.ahschools.us/kindergarten](http://www.ahschools.us/kindergarten)

## Language and Literacy

### ● Uses a variety of words in talking with others:

- Does your child use complete sentences with four to six words?\*
- Communicate needs and feelings appropriately?
- Try to use new words?

### ● Listens and understands:

- Does your child respond appropriately to simple statements, questions and stories?
- Can follow simple instructions? Is able to listen to an entire story?
- Recall parts of a story?

### ● Shows an interest in books and reading:\*

- Holds the book correctly; turns pages from the front of the book to the back; knows some features of a book (title, author, illustrator).

### ● Knows and uses letters:

- Can your child name 20 uppercase letters and 20 lowercase letters?\*
- Can your child connect some letters with letter sounds?
- Recognizes and prints own name and maybe other familiar words like dad, mom.

## Physical Development

### ● Moves safely and purposefully from one place to another:

- Does your child avoid people, furniture and objects while moving?
- Play safely on a playground?

### ● Holds and uses markers, pencils, crayons, and scissors.\*