

Is Your Child Ready for Kindergarten?

9 things to think about:

1. **Reading Readiness**: Is your child eager to read? She may be ready for the pint-sized rigors of kindergarten if she looks at pictures and tells a story, knows the alphabet and some simple words, tries to write her first name, understands that words are read from left to right, and pretends to read.
2. **Listening and Sequencing Skills**: Does your child pay attention when you speak to him? Is he able to repeat six- to eight-word sentences or retell a simple story? These listening skills will come in handy in the kindergarten classroom.
3. **Speaks/Expresses Herself**: Kindergarten-ready kids usually speak in complete sentences and can repeat familiar songs, rhymes and poems.
4. **Basic Math Skills**: Does your child find patterns and sort objects by color, shape, or size; complete simple puzzles; recognize colors and simple shapes; count to 10; or count objects one by one? Is she familiar with the concept of time (day and night; special days of the year; days of the week; months of the year; knows how many days until Grandpa visits)?
5. **Emotional Maturity**: Does your child have self-control? Is she OK with being separated for long periods of time? Is she respectful of authority and patient?
6. **Social Skills**: Does your child participate in conversations; call peers and family members by name; help at home; or play with others? Does he put away his toys and recognize authority?
7. **Fine Motor Skills**: Can she button and zip her clothes by herself? Does she enjoy coloring, drawing, or painting? Does she cut and paste or play with blocks?
8. **Gross Motor Skills**: Kindergarten children are expected to be able to run, jump, hop, walk in a straight line, catch and bounce a ball, go down stairs and stand on 1 foot for 10 seconds (barring any disabilities).
9. **Basic Personal Knowledge**: Does he know his full name, home address and phone number, age, birthday and gender?

If your child only shows 0-30% of the above characteristics consider waiting another year before enrolling her into a kindergarten program. If your child can do 30-60% of these things, he may need extra support at home to feel successful in a kindergarten classroom. If your child can do more than 60% of these things, he is ready for the adventures in a kindergarten classroom.

4 Easy-Peasy Steps to Enroll in DVCS Kindergarten

1. Birth Certificate (be 5 years old by Sept. 1)
2. Update Child's Health Record
 - Proof of recent physical exam
 - Proof of required immunizations
3. Fill out enrollment form
4. Sign Financial Agreement

Important Dates

Date	Event
By appointment	Education Consultation with Principal/K-2 Teacher
August 4, 2017, 2-4pm	Registration deadline
August 10, 2017	First day of school