

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 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 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

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.*