PRESCHOOL
SKILLS CHECKLIST

Thank you for downloading the Preschool Skills Checklist! These checklists are intended to serve as a guide of skills that a typically developing preschool child is working towards. All of our toddler and preschool resources are created with these skills as the focus. Please keep in mind that many of these skills will continue to be focused on in Kindergarten too! Inside of this file, you will find checklists for the following developmental areas:

- Early Literacy Skills
- Mathematical Thinking Skills
- Science, Music, Art and Technology
- Language and Communication Skills
- Social and Emotional Development
- Fine and Gross Motor Skills

If you are looking for more information on preparing your child for school, please read this post on Kindergarten Readiness.



PRESCHOOL SKILLS CHECKLIST

FINE AND GROSS MOTOR SKILLS

- ❑ Demonstrates basic locomotor movements (walking, running, skipping, jumping)
- ❑ Hops and balances on one foot
- ❑ Distinguishes between the left and right side of the body
- ❑ Catches, throws and kicks a ball
- ❑ Takes care of basic self needs like toileting, dressing and washing hands
- ❑ Practices tying shoelaces
- ❑ Builds using blocks or other materials
- ❑ Puts together a simple puzzle
- ❑ Holds a writing device with three fingers grasp
- ❑ Uses scissors appropriately
- ❑ Uses a glue stick and liquid glue appropriately
- ❑ Attempts to stay in the lines when coloring

SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- ❑ Follows basic safety rules and routines
- ❑ Shows responsibility for self and belongings
- ❑ Able to spend time away from caregiver
- ❑ Shares and takes turns
- ❑ Attempts to solve problems using words
- ❑ Shows respect to peers and adults
- ❑ Plays well with peers
- ❑ Expresses basic emotions in a developmentally appropriate way
- ❑ Makes and keeps friends
- ❑ Shows compassion and concern for others
- ❑ Understands that play can be pretend
- ❑ Adjusts to new situations
- ❑ Displays self confidence
- ❑ Work independently on a specific task
- ❑ Sticks with a task until it is complete
- ❑ Pays attention for a short amount of time

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PRESCHOOL SKILLS CHECKLIST

EARLY LITERACY SKILLS

- ❑ Understands that words convey meaning
- ❑ Recognizes and writes name
- ❑ Communicates through drawing or writing
- ❑ Writes letters correctly, especially the letters in their name
- ❑ Recognizes familiar print in their environment (signs, names of family members)
- ❑ Recites (sings) the alphabet
- ❑ Names uppercase letters
- ❑ Names lowercase letters
- ❑ Knows letter sounds
- ❑ Can match uppercase and lowercase letters
- ❑ Handles a book correctly (turns pages, holds upright)
- ❑ Listens and engages with a story being read aloud
- ❑ Answers simple questions about a story
- ❑ Talks about a favorite book
- ❑ Hears rhyming words

MATHEMATICAL THINKING SKILLS

- ❑ Can distinguish numbers from letters
- ❑ Recognizes and identifies numbers 0-10
- ❑ Writes numbers 0-10
- ❑ Orally counts to 20
- ❑ Counts objects with one to one correspondence to 10
- ❑ Knows that the final number in counting tells how many
- ❑ Identifies basic 2-D shapes (square, triangle, circle, rectangle)
- ❑ Sorts objects by attributes (color, size, shape)
- ❑ Recognizes patterns
- ❑ Uses basic vocabulary to describe quantities (none, some, all)
- ❑ Can tell which group has more and which has less

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LANGAUGE AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS

- ❑ Expresses needs and ideas in a way that others can understand
- ❑ Asks for help
- ❑ Comprehends and answers basic questions including yes/no questions and open ended questions
- ❑ Can state basic information about themselves including name, age, birthday, phone number and address
- ❑ Speaks in four or five word sentences
- ❑ Follows one and two step oral directions
- ❑ Can hold a short conversation
- ❑ Shows positive listening behaviors
- ❑ Uses good manners like saying please, thank you and excuse me
- ❑ Uses describing words including colors

SCIENCE, MUSIC, ART AND TECHNOLOGY

- ❑ Asks questions about the world around them
- ❑ Makes observations about the world around them
- ❑ Knows common nursery rhymes
- ❑ Sings simple songs
- ❑ Creates or makes up songs and stories
- ❑ Uses imagination
- ❑ Enjoys creating new things
- ❑ Draws recognizable objects like people
- ❑ Plays pretend
- ❑ Uses simple technology
- ❑ Is comfortable wearing headphones

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