

Early Indicators for Successful Kindergartners:

(*From Parents as Partners by Nellie Edge. Adapted to reflect Common Core Standards.)

Children entering kindergarten demonstrate a variety of learning behaviors. The following behaviors and skills are indicators of kindergarten success:

Oral Language, Reading, Writing

- Says his or her first and last names
- Follows simple instructions
- Shares thoughts and opinions
- Answers simple questions
- Listens to stories read each day
- Recites many nursery rhymes
- Sings simple songs (*Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star*)
- Retells a familiar event or story
- Participates in word play (Donnie, Bonny, Lonny...)
- Identifies primary colors
- Discusses a favorite story
- Talks about pictures
- Pretends to "read" a book
- Identifies some or all of the letters in the alphabet; says corresponding sound
- Writes name with correct capital and lower case letters
- Attempts writing by using scribbling, print-like marks, strings of letters or words

Mathematics

- Identifies some shapes
- Matches objects (socks, shoes, mittens, gloves)
- Notices similarities and differences
- Sorts and classifies objects
- Uses math language (bigger, smaller, tallest, shortest)
- Plays counting games
- Counts to 20 and beyond

- Touches or points at objects when counting
- Arranges objects by size from tallest to shortest

Social and Emotional

- Makes choices
- Takes turns
- Uses self-help skills (dressing, toileting, eating)
- Shares with others
- Uses self-control
- *Helps with chores at home
- Begins to demonstrate independence
- Finishes new tasks
- Begins to show self-confidence
- Tries new things
- Expresses thoughts and feelings

Physical

- Hops, jumps, gallops, runs, leaps, climbs, balances
- Throws and catches a ball
- Alternates feet when walking up steps
- Buttons and zips
- Ties shoes
- Assembles puzzles
- Uses crayons: can color inside lines
- Demonstrates good pencil grip

*Parents as Partners

One of the important things you can do to promote school success is to **help your child to be more and more responsible at home:** Teach your child to pick up toys, set the table, take care of a pet, clean their room, and help with the household chores... N.E.