

Getting ready...

Sending your child to kindergarten is an exciting time. However, this huge milestone can leave many parents and children feeling anxious. You may even find yourself asking, "Is my child ready for kindergarten?" To help prepare your child for the adventure that lies ahead, we have prepared a list of essential skills that will help each of you prepare for this journey.

Reading and Writing Skills

Reading and writing skills are critical elements to a kindergartener's success. You can help boost this success by working with the following skills before your child enters kindergarten.

- Recites ABCs
- Recognizes letters of the alphabet
- Reads and writes own name
- Makes rhymes
- Draws, tells, and retells a story
- Holds books right side up with spine on the left and cover showing

Math Skills

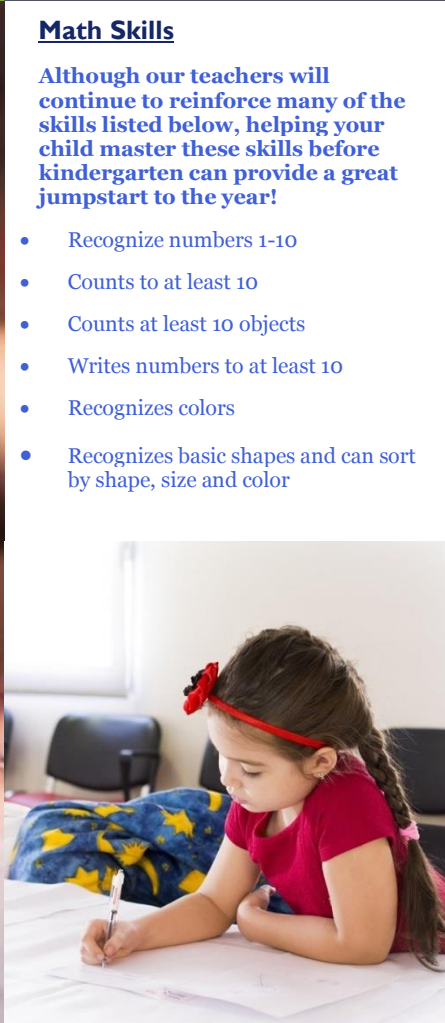
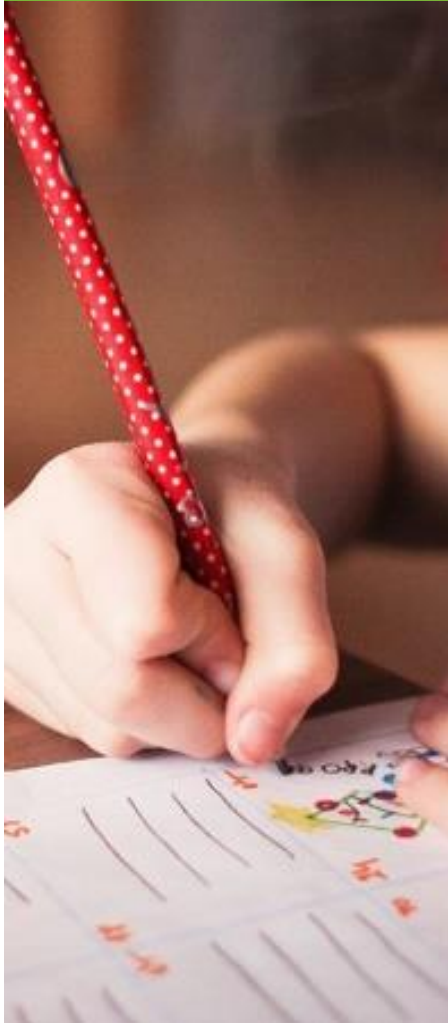
Although our teachers will continue to reinforce many of the skills listed below, helping your child master these skills before kindergarten can provide a great jumpstart to the year!

- Recognize numbers 1-10
- Counts to at least 10
- Counts at least 10 objects
- Writes numbers to at least 10
- Recognizes colors
- Recognizes basic shapes and can sort by shape, size and color



EXCELSIOR SPRINGS
SCHOOL DISTRICT
— Together, Achieving Excellence —

Kindergarten Readiness Skills



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Self-Help Skills

Self-help skills ease the transition to kindergarten for parent, student and teacher.

- Ties shoes and zips coat/jacket
- Follows a set of directions the first time
- Seeks help or attention appropriately
- Recites full name, birthday, address and phone number

Building the Essentials

There are a number of different ways to practice any of these skills, but the most important thing you can do for your child is to **READ** with them daily. Many of these essential skills can be acquired through this important time you spend with your child.

Kindergarten Screening and Enrollment

Kindergarten screening and enrollment is held each spring at the district elementary school buildings. If your child will be 5 years old by July 31 of the current year, they are eligible for kindergarten in the fall. Contact the elementary school where your child will attend to make an appointment.

Elkhorn Elementary 816-630-9270

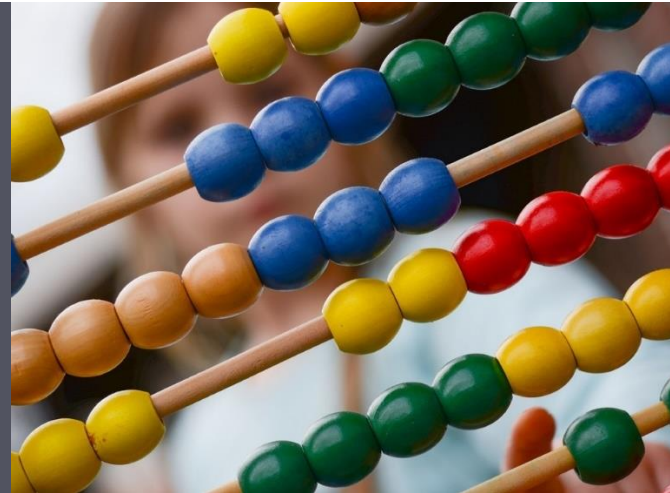
Lewis Elementary 816-630-9290

Westview Elementary 816-630-9260



Parents As Teachers

Parents as Teachers is a voluntary, early childhood parent education and family support program designed to help parents give their children (ages birth to 5) the best possible start in life. For more information about PAT services call 816-630-9293.



“Think and wonder. Wonder and think.”

-Dr. Seuss



Exploring and Discovery

Memory and letter recognition games
“Writing” everyday (cards, lists, notes, etc.)
Sorting items
Counting household items
Rhyming and singing songs
www.starfall.com
www.softschools.com
www.abcya.com
www.spellingcity.com

