



THE AMBROSE SCHOOL

Classical Christian Education

KINDERGARTEN READINESS GUIDE

Is my child ready for kindergarten?

These are the skills that will help your child make a smooth transition into kindergarten at The Ambrose School. This is not a "checklist" but rather a guide in helping you prepare your child. If you have questions, our kindergarten teachers are always happy to discuss your child's readiness with you.

FINE MOTOR SKILLS

- Cut with scissors
- Trace basic shapes
- Write their name

GROSS MOTOR SKILLS

- Throw, catch, and bounce a ball
- Engage in jumping, hopping, skipping, climbing, balance, pushing, lifting

LANGUAGE SKILLS

- Listen to stories without interrupting
- Speak understandably
- Talk in complete sentences of five to six words

SELF HELP SKILLS

- Use bathroom independently
- Button shirts, pants, coats, and zip up zippers
- Eat lunch independently

LISTENING SKILLS

- EYES are looking toward the speaker
- EARS are ready to hear
- MOUTH is quiet and waiting for your turn to talk
- HANDS are quiet and kept to yourself
- FEET are quiet and still
- BODY is facing the speaker
- BRAIN is thinking about what is being said
- HEART is considering the speaker and others listening



PHONEMIC AWARENESS

- Look at pictures and then tell the story
- Identify the beginning sounds of some words
- Identify letters
- Know letter sounds
- Recognize rhyming words and sounds

NUMBER SENSE

- Count to 20
- Recognize numbers to 10
- Count 10 objects using 1 to 1 correspondence (counts each object separately, not the same one over again)

MATURITY

- Begin to share with others
- Start to follow rules
- Respect authority
- Separate from parents without being upset
- Take responsibility for own belongings
- Walk into classroom without parental assistance

HELPING YOUR CHILD

Helping your child practice these skills daily will build his or her confidence and independence to ensure a smooth transition into kindergarten.

If you have questions about your child's readiness, please contact our Admissions Director and ask to speak to one of our kindergarten teachers.

Our goal is to help your child succeed!

(208) 323-3888

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What Your Kindergartener Will Learn at The Ambrose School

Kindergarten is an exciting year full of learning and development. As a kindergartner, your child will listen to stories from Scripture and memorize Scripture verses and the kindergarten catechism on the theme of obeying God.

Kindergarteners learn to read using Abeka's phonics curriculum, to print using D'Nealian style of writing, and learn the basics of math using Singapore Math.

Throughout the year, students study different species of birds—their calls, diet, habitats, anatomy, and appearance. Kindergarteners draw and read stories and memorize poems about different birds, and end their year with a field trip to Boise's Birds of Prey Center.

1st Semester Kindergarten Benchmarks *(what your student will learn by the end of the first semester)*

HABITS

- First time obedience
- Self-control
- Self-sacrifice
- Morning Habits
- End of Day Habits
- Classroom Routine

MATH

- Identify numbers 1-70
- Reproduce/write numbers 1-70
- Place value 1-70
- Addition: some, some more stories
- Subtraction: some, some went away stories
- Doubles with sums to 20
- Months of the year
- Days of the week
- Shapes: identify & reproduce
- Left & right

PHONICS

- Blends: short & long vowels fully mastered
- One Vowel Rule: When there is one vowel in a word, it usually says its short sound. Mark it with a smile.
- Two Vowel Rule: When there are two vowels in a word- the first one says its long sound and the second one is silent.
- K/C Rule: K comes before i and e, C before the other three a, o, u.
- L, F, S Rule: L, F, and S are often doubled at the end on a short vowel word.

READING

- Modern Curriculum Set 1 - completed
- Two vowel readers
- Sight Words

PENMANSHIP

- D'Nealian Letter formation
- Simple Sentence Construction