

# Help Me Start Kindergarten Ready to Learn!

For a Smart Start  
in kindergarten, help me:

## Social and emotional development

- Work and play cooperatively with peers, be non-disruptive, take turns, respect others, and share
- Be able to work alone
- Resolve conflicts appropriately
- Follow simple rules and directions
- Express emotions in an appropriate manner
- Demonstrate enthusiasm and curiosity when approaching new activities
- Participate successfully in circle time, listen, focus, and be engaged
- Relate appropriately to adults other than parent/caregiver

## Cognitive development and general knowledge

- Count 10 objects
- Match items
- Make meaning of patterns
- Show curiosity and a desire to learn

## Self-care skills

- Manage small items such as crayons, paintbrushes, buttons, zippers, etc.
- Ask for help when needed
- Take care of personal belongings
- Use the toilet independently
- Perform self-care tasks: dressing, eating, washing hands, and covering mouth when coughing/sneezing

## Communication and literacy

- Use communication that can be understood by others
- Listen and understand what is being said or requested by others
- Ask for help
- Communicate wants and needs
- Use words, drawings, and writing to express a meaningful experience
- Look at pictures, then tells stories
- Understand and interpret a story or other text read to me

## Physical well-being and motor development

- Appear physically healthy, well-rested, and nourished
- Manipulate materials such as a pencil, crayon, table block, scissors, eating utensil, and puzzle pieces
- Move with balance and control



Ready for School ▶ Ready for Life.

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This School Readiness Definition was developed by Monroe Smart Start Birth-to-Five Coalition and approved by MCCSC and RBB schools districts.



[www.monroesmartstart.org](http://www.monroesmartstart.org)