



A child who is “ready” for kindergarten is equipped with the skills needed to be successful in a structured learning environment, particularly in language, cognitive, physical, and social-emotional development. In the OACS VPK Program, we help your child prepare for kindergarten using the following skills as a guideline.

### **Oral Language & Communication**

- ✓ Speaks in complete sentences of 5-6 words
  - ✓ Speaks clearly enough to be understood by others
  - ✓ Talks about everyday experiences
  - ✓ Follows two- and three-step directions
  - ✓ Can state first and last name
  - ✓ Understands and uses positional words (e.g., above, below, next to)
  - ✓ Shows understanding by asking and answering relevant questions
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### **Mathematics**

- ✓ Can count in sequence up to 30
  - ✓ Uses one-to-one correspondence when counting objects
  - ✓ Recognizes simple patterns and non-patterns
  - ✓ Counts and recognizes number names (10)
  - ✓ Demonstrates understanding of addition & subtraction with objects
  - ✓ Identifies basic shapes and colors
  - ✓ Names ordinal positions (e.g., first, second, third)
  - ✓ Use counting and matching strategies to find which is more, less or equal to up to 10
  - ✓ Recognizes and duplicated AB pattern using objects
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### **Print Knowledge & Phonological Awareness**

- ✓ Recognizes all letters of the alphabet (uppercase & lowercase)
- ✓ Recognizes first and last name in print
- ✓ Understands that text is read from left to right
- ✓ Recognizes and produces rhyming words (e.g., hat, cat)
- ✓ Identifies the number of syllables in words (e.g., dog = 1, elephant = 3)
- ✓ Blends sounds together to form words (e.g., /c/ + /at/ = cat)
- ✓ Identifies the beginning sounds in words


- ✓ Distinguishes individual words within spoken phrases or sentences
  - ✓ Demonstrates phoneme deletion (e.g., “goat” without /g/ = “oat”)
  - ✓ Recognizes compound words (e.g., sailboat without “sail” = boat)
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### **Social & Emotional Development**

- ✓ Separates easily from parents
  - ✓ Relates well to adults and peers
  - ✓ Plays cooperatively with others
  - ✓ Demonstrates curiosity and eagerness to learn
  - ✓ Expresses needs and wants appropriately
  - ✓ Follows simple classroom rules and routines
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### **Writing Skills**

- ✓ Uses symbols or drawings to express ideas
  - ✓ Writes using letter-like shapes, symbols, or letters
  - ✓ Writes own name
  - ✓ Writes some letters with correct formation
  - ✓ When coloring can use realistic colors and stay in lines
  - ✓ Can draw a “mat man” with correct body parts
  - ✓ Writes own name
  - ✓ Writes some letters with correct formation
  - ✓ Attempts to invent spelling when writing
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 **Every child develops at their own pace!** This checklist is a guide to help families support their child's learning journey. If you have concerns, reach out to your child’s teacher or pediatrician.