

What is kindergarten readiness?

You might think that it's most important for children to enter kindergarten knowing their ABCs, numbers, shapes, and colors. But there are equally - if not more - important skills that prepare your child for success in school.

Raising an eager learner is the goal, and it can be achieved easily through play and day-to-day activities. Here are the top readiness skills that kindergarten teachers look for:

- Excitement toward learning
- Talking about thoughts and feelings
 - Listening to others
 - Desire to be independent
- Playing well with others and taking turns
 - Following simple instructions
- Ability to hold and use a pencil or crayon
 - Recognizing numbers and letters



This booklet was developed by Portland Public Schools with the Multnomah County Commission on Children, Families and Community, and it is supported by United Way, through Born Learning. Visit www.bornlearning.org for information on how you can help your child develop great learning skills from birth through age 5. 2009

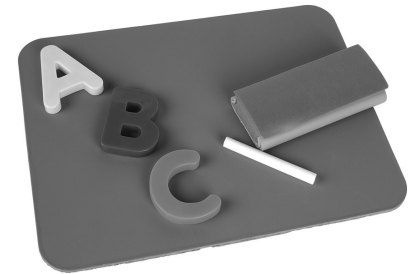
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Summer Fun!

Activities for the Pre-Kindergarten Student

Ready



Set

Connect



to Kindergarten



United Way of the
Columbia-Willamette



Portland Public Schools

**Prepare NOW for a successful
kindergarten year.**

It's as easy as ABC!

A. Register now for a smooth start this fall.

- Go to your school with your child's immunization records, proof of age, and two documents showing proof of home address (such as utility bills).
- New immunization requirements are posted at: mesd.k12.or.us/shs/hss/immunizations/immunization.index.shtml.
- If you haven't registered yet, or need to know your school, go to the back page for the phone numbers and websites for each school district in Multnomah County.

B. Read to your child to prepare them for school.

- Make time for reading every day.
- After reading the story, ask about your child's favorite parts or pictures.
- Take your child to the library and learn about the Summer Reading program. It's a great way to get children excited about books.

C. Find learning activities, like the ones in this booklet, to do together. See our tips at the end on getting ready for kindergarten.

**Get connected with your local
school district**

Centennial School District 18135 SE Brooklyn,
Portland OR 97236 (503) 760-7990 www.centennial.k12.or.us

David Douglas School District 1500 SE 130th,
Portland OR 97233 (503) 252-2900 www.ddouglas.k12.or.us

Gresham-Barlow School District 1331 NW Eastman Pky-
Gresham OR 97030 (503) 618-2450 www.gresham.k12.or.us

Parkrose School District 10636 NE Prescott St.
Portland OR 97220 (503) 408-2100 www.parkrose.k12.or.us

Portland Public School District 501 N. Dixon St.
Portland OR 97227 (503) 916-3205 www.pps.k12.or.us

Reynolds School District 1204 NE 201st Ave.
Fairview OR 97024 (503) 661-7200 www.reynolds.k12.or.us

Riverdale School District 11733 SW Breyman Ave.
Portland, OR 97219 (503) 636-8611 www.riverdale.k12.or.us

Child Care Resource and Referral of Multnomah County can direct you to your neighborhood school and/or child care options. Call 503-548-4400 or visit www.ccr-rmc.org

*Do you know a child who might have delays?
The Multnomah Early Childhood Program provides free
developmental screenings and evaluation for children birth to
age five, Call 503-262-4100 for more information.*

Children's Books about Kindergarten

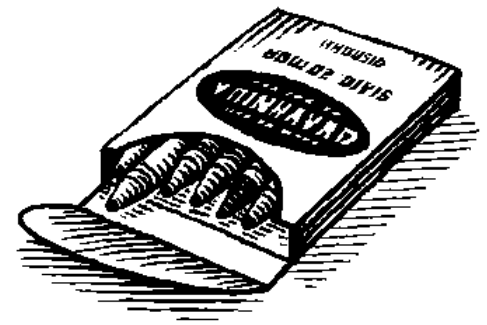
Check these out at your local library branch!

- *A Bug, a Bear, and a Boy Go to School* by David McPhail
- *Alice Ann Gets Ready for School* by Cynthia Jabar
- *Annabelle Swift, Kindergartener* by Amy Schwartz
- *Beginning School* by Irene Smalls
- *Benjamin Bigfoot* by Mary Serfozo
- *David Goes to School* by David Shannon
- *First Day, Hurray* by Nancy Poydar
- *Hairy the Dirty Dog* by Gene Zion
- *Harry and Tuck* by Holly Keller
- *Kindergarten Kids* by Ellen B. Senisi
- *The Kissing Hand* by Audrey Penn
- *Listen for the Bus: David's Story* by Patricia McMahon
- *Little Miss Spider at Sunny Patch School* by David Kirk
- *Minerva Louise at School* by Janet Morgan Stoeke
- *Monster Goes to School* by Virginia Mueller
- *My First Days of School* by Jane Hamilton-Merritt
- *My School, Your School* by Bette Birnbaum
- *School* by Emily Arnold McCully
- *See You Later, Alligator!* by Laura Kuasnosky
- *Timothy Goes to School* by Rosemary Wells
- *Tiptoe into Kindergarten* by Jacqueline Rogers
- *When You Go to Kindergarten* by James Howe

This activity booklet is filled with things to do that will help your child get ready for school.

Each page has a special activity for you to do with your child.

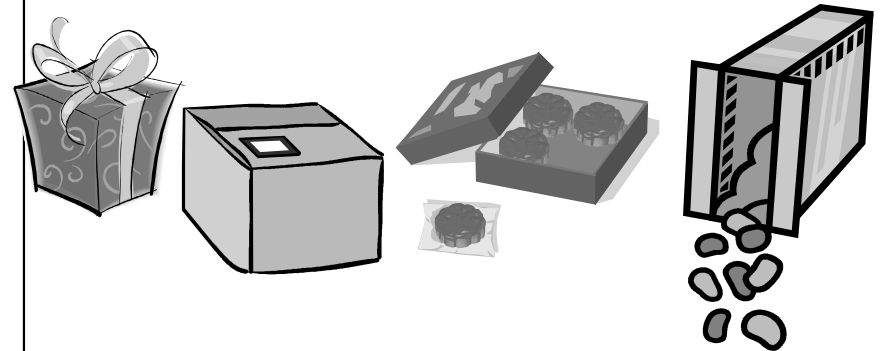
Have fun together!



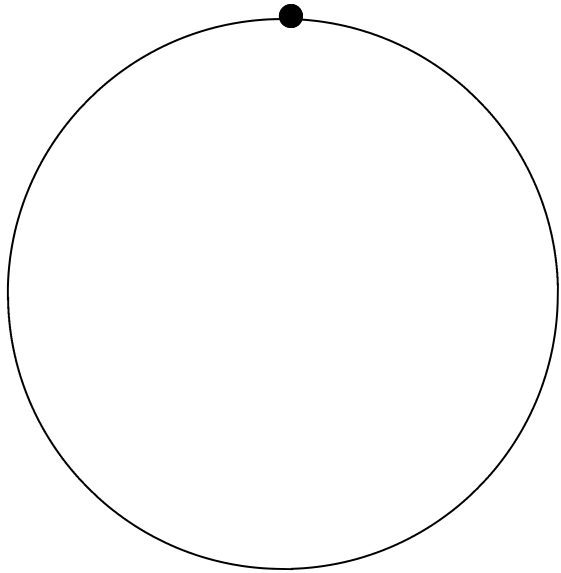
Count the number of chairs in each room of your house. Which room has the most chairs? Draw a picture of that room.



Ask a grown-up to give you 4 boxes or cans. Line them up from shortest to tallest. Draw a picture of what goes in the tallest box or can.



Start at the dot and trace the circle. Use another color and trace it again. Take a walk around your house and see how many circles you can find.



Think about opposites. If you are not big then you are _____. Draw a picture of something that is big and then draw a picture of something that is little.

Practice counting from 0 to 20.
Touch each number as you say it.

0 1 2 3 4

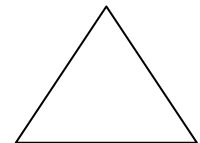
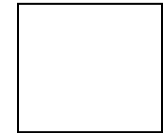
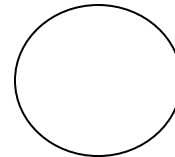
5 6 7 8 9

10 11 12 13 14

15 16 17 18

19 20

Use the board to play *Shape Bingo*. When the grown-up says a shape, cover it with a penny.



Go on a letter search. Look in old magazines and newspapers.

Circle the **g**s, **h**s and **i**s. Use a crayon and trace the letters below.

g h i

Take a walk with a grown-up. Talk about all the things and people you see. What do they look like and what are they doing? When you get home, draw a picture of something or someone you saw.



Exercise!



hop 5 times



jump 10 times



skip 6 times



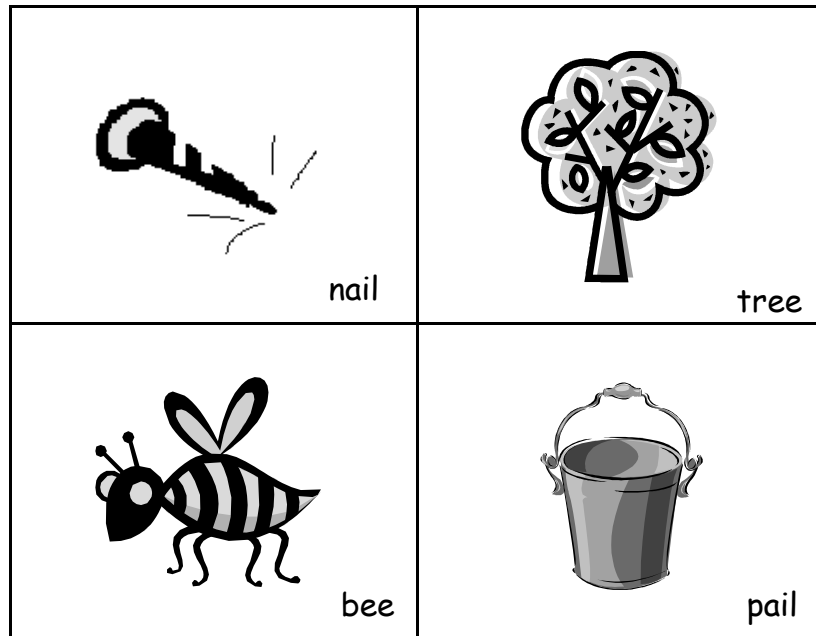
clap 8 times



march 7 times

Play the *Remembering Game* with a grown-up. Listen carefully as the grown-up says 3 numbers. Then, repeat those numbers in the same order. Ask the grown-up to give you 3 more numbers. Listen carefully. Repeat all 3 numbers in the same order.

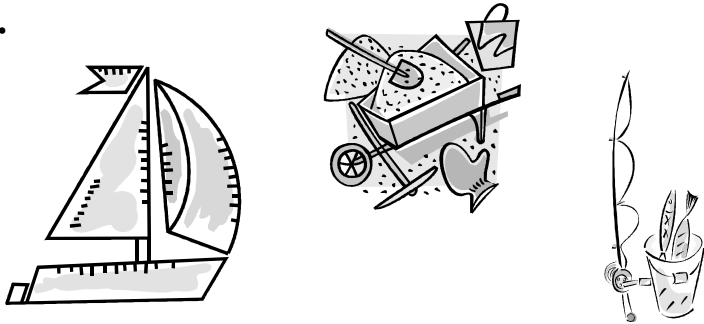
Cut the cards apart. Match the rhyming words. Can you think of another rhyming word for each pair?



Ask a grown-up to trace your foot. Use scissors to cut around the drawing of your foot. Find something in your house that is bigger than your foot. Find something in your house that is smaller than your foot and draw a picture of it.



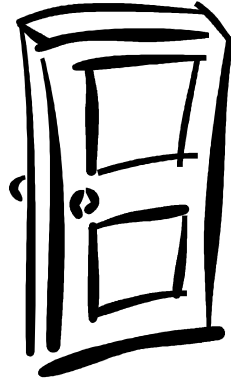
Tell a grown-up 3 things you like to do. Tell a grown-up 3 things you do not like to do. Draw a picture of something you like to do.



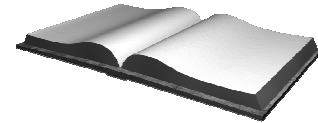
Use the board to play ***Number Bingo***. When the grown-up says a number, cover it with a piece of paper.

10	5	7
8	6	9

Count the number of doors in each room of your house. Which room has the most doors? Draw a picture of that room.



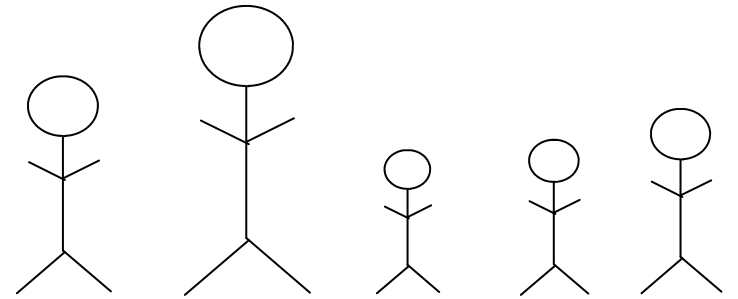
Ask a grown-up to read you a story. Be a good listener and listen carefully. When the grown-up is finished reading, retell the whole story. Draw a picture of a part you liked.



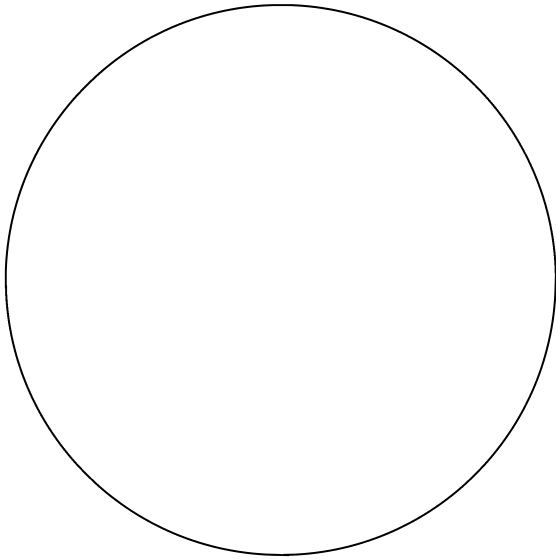
Use the board to play *Alphabet Bingo*. When the grown-up says a letter, cover it with a rock or a piece of paper.

a	b	c
d	e	f
g	h	i

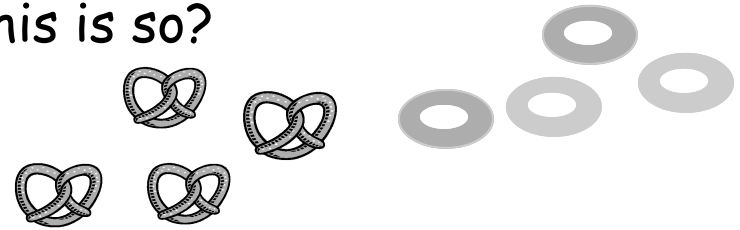
Ask all the people in your house to stand next to each other. Who is the tallest? Who is the shortest? Draw a picture of the tallest person.



Name as many colors as you can.
Find something in your house to
show each color. Color the circle
with your favorite color.



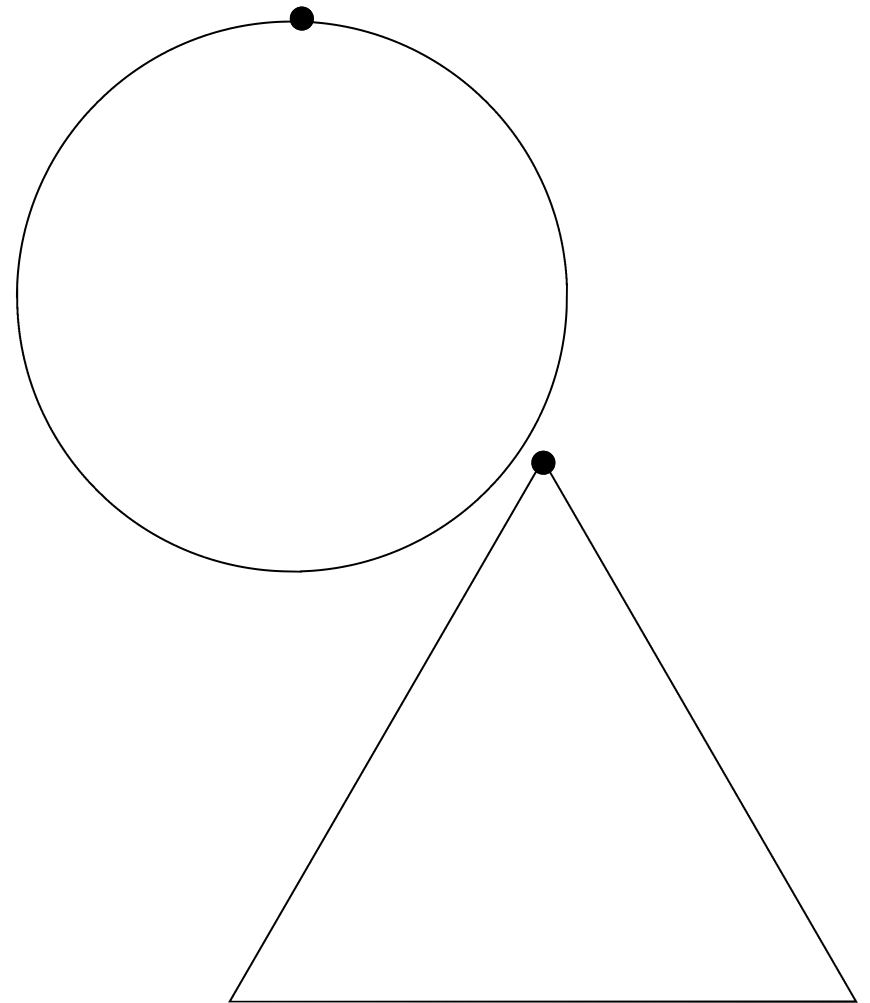
Do you think you can hold more
pretzels or Cheerios in your
hand? Take a handful of pret-
zels. How many can you hold?
Count them. Take a handful of
Cheerios. How many can you
hold? Can you hold more pretzels
or Cheerios? Why do you think
this is so?



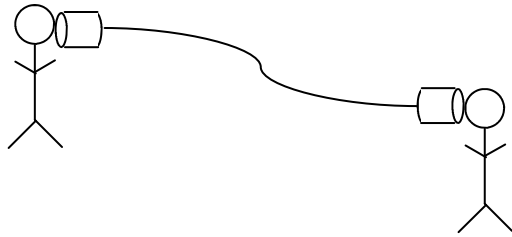
Tell a grown-up 5 things that remind you of summer. Draw a picture of yourself during summer.



Start at the dot and trace the circle and triangle. Take a walk with a grown-up around the neighborhood and look for circles and triangles.



Tell a grown-up about 5 things that make you happy. Be sure to tell what it is and why it makes you happy. Draw a picture of yourself doing something that makes you happy.



Ask a grown-up to use two different objects (dimes and pennies, 2 different sizes of rocks) and begin an AB pattern (dime, penny, dime, penny). Continue the grown-up's pattern.



Cut the cards apart. Match the rhyming words. Can you think of another rhyming word for each pair?

fan



clock



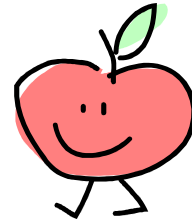
can



sock



Name as many fruits as you can.
Draw a picture of fruit you enjoy eating.



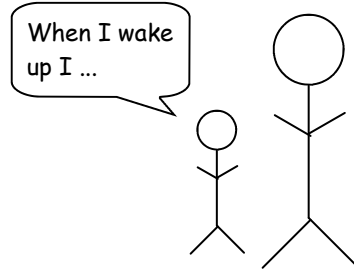
Look in a mirror. Describe yourself (everything you see) to a grown-up. Draw a picture of yourself (as you see it in the mirror).



Tell a grown-up the ways in which a car and bus are the same and the ways in which a car and a bus are different. Draw a picture of a car and a bus.



Tell a grown-up 3 things you do to take care of yourself. Draw a picture of yourself doing one of these things.



Name as many animals as you can. Draw a picture of an animal you like.

