



**Kindergarten Readiness  
Northwest Christian School**

*Kindergarten forms the basis for the critical academic, social and emotional experiences and learning foundations that will guide and inform students throughout the duration of their school careers.*

**Top Ten Readiness Skills for Kindergarten**

1. Enthusiasm Toward Learning
2. Conflict Resolution Skills
3. Solid Oral-Language Skills
4. The Ability to Listen and Follow Directions
5. The Desire to Be Independent: Self Help Skills
6. The Ability to Play Well with Others
7. Strong Fine Motor Skills
8. Basic Letter and Number Recognition
9. Understanding Concepts of Print
10. Curiosity About Their World

**What do the Teachers want to see?**

1. Follow a series of 3 unrelated instructions
2. Sit in a group and listen to a story: 5 to 10 minutes
3. Be able to separate from parents
4. Know about 17 letters of the alphabet
5. Identify letters in his/her name and recognize name
6. Count to 20 and do one-to-one correspondence to 10
7. Know basic shapes and colors
8. Hop and jump and skip
9. Hand strength for writing / pencil grip
10. A happy child

**Where Do I Go From Here?**

1. Application Process: You can find the application online at [www.ncsaz.org](http://www.ncsaz.org)
  - a. See Michelle Reddy with Questions 602-978-5134
2. Complete Application Turned in to NCS online
  - a. Kindergarten Testing: To Be Scheduled through the office
3. Interview with the Principal: To be Scheduled through the office
4. Kindergarten Programs: All Day 8:00 – 3:00 and Half Day 12:30 – 3:30
5. Kindergarten Step Up Day
  - a. Classroom Time
  - b. Lunch
  - c. Chapel
6. Summer Events with NCS Families
  - a. Summer Camps: The month of June
  - b. Stitching Events: Throughout July: See the packet mailed to families in June

## Readiness Benchmarks

Don't worry if your child seems to have only a handful of these skills the first time you read the lists. Check the skills he/she has mastered, then review the lists every month to see what additional skills he/she can accomplish easily. Young children learn so fast! He/She may struggle with a skill this month but have it mastered the next month.

## Physical Development and Motor Skills

### *Does your child:*

- Manage his/her own bathroom needs? Dress himself/herself (coat, socks, shoes)?
- Cut two-inch circles/hold scissors and cut with confidence? Trace basic shapes with some control?
- Notice the difference between textures?
- Use a fork properly?
- Print his/her name?
- Play bounce-and-catch with a big ball? Skip? Hop forward on one foot and backward with both feet?
- Change direction when running? Walk down stairs using alternate feet?
- Initiate his/her own leisure-time activities?

## Social and Behavioral Skills

### *Does/Is your child:*

- Able to provide simple conflict resolution? Take turns and share with others?
- Able to sit for a story for 5 to 15 minutes in circle time?
- Able to follow a series of three unrelated instructions?
- Able to play *with* friends?
- Listen to stories without interrupting? Pay attention for short periods of time to adult-directed tasks?
- Do tasks the first time asked?
- Follow two or three oral directions?
- Finish one activity before starting another?
- Understand that actions have both causes and effects?
- Enjoy interacting with children without continual supervision?
- Know how to follow rules? Recognize authority figures?
- Respect other people's property?
- Show an interest in the outside world, beyond home and school?
- Enjoy pretend play, imitating adult roles?
- Work independently?
- Spend time apart from you without being upset? Separate from you?

## Language Skills

### *Does your child:*

- Speak understandably? Talk in complete sentences? Use compound sentences?
- Look at pictures and then tell stories? Relate a familiar story without picture clues?
- Explore a variety of roles through creative play? Recognize rhyming sounds?
- Show understanding of general times of day? Tell the days of the week in order?
- Identify the beginning sound of some words? Sing the alphabet song and know some letters?
- Recognize some common sight words such as "stop"?
- Know his/her address and phone number?
- Tell a simple joke? Tell a simple story in sequence? Ask the meaning of new words?

## Academic Readiness

### *Does your child:*

- Identify picture likenesses and differences?
- Know how to produce rhyming words? Identify if words are the same or different by sound?
- Recognize/name basic colors/ Recognize/name basic shapes/ Sort similar objects by color, size, and shape?
- Recognize his/her own name/ Ability to recognize at least 17 letters of the alphabet/know the sounds of these letters
- Count to 20/ Recognize numbers to 10/One to one correspondence for numbers to 10