



Check It Out

Ready-for-School Checklist

Helping Your Child Get Ready for School!



This checklist, although not exhaustive, can help to guide you in preparing your child for school. It's best to look at the items included as goals toward which to aim.

They should be done, as much as possible, through everyday life or by fun activities you've planned with your child.

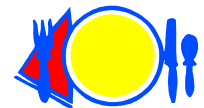
If your child lags behind in some areas.

Remember that all children are unique. They grow and develop at different rates. If your child appears to be developing slower than his/her friends, contact your



physician or Resource and Referral Center. They can provide you with information that can help you determine if your child is in need of professional screening.

Good Health and Physical Well-Being



My child:

✓Eats a balanced diet.

✓Receives regular medical and dental care and has had all the necessary immunizations.

✓Gets plenty of rest.

✓Runs, jumps, plays outdoors, and does other activities that help develop large muscles and provide exercise.

✓Works puzzles, scribbles, colors, paints, and does other activities that help develop small muscles.



A project of The Florida Partnership for Parent Involvement

Center of Excellence ♦ Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute ♦ Florida's Children's Forum
Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters ♦ Hillsborough County Head Start ♦ Hillsborough County Even Start

Social and Emotional Preparation

M child:

- ✓Is learning to be confident enough to explore and try new things.
- ✓Is learning to work well alone and to do many tasks for himself.
- ✓Has many opportunities to be with other children and is learning to cooperate with them.
- ✓Is curious and is motivated to learn. Is learning to finish tasks (for example, picks up own toys).
- ✓Is learning to use self-control.
- ✓Can follow simple instructions.
- ✓Helps with family chores.



Language and General Knowledge

M child:

- ✓Has many opportunities to play.
- ✓Is read to every day.

- ✓Has access to books and other reading materials.
- ✓Has his television viewing monitored by an adult.
- ✓Is encouraged to ask questions.
- ✓Is encouraged to solve problems.
- ✓Is learning to identify shapes & colors.
- ✓Is learning to count and plays counting games.
- ✓Has opportunities to draw, listen to and make music, and to dance.
- ✓Is encouraged to sort and classify things (for example, by looking for red cars on the highway).
- ✓Has opportunities to notice similarities and differences.
- ✓learning to write his name & address.
- ✓Has opportunities to get firsthand experiences to do things in the world--to see and touch objects, hear new sounds, smell & taste foods & watch things move.

This information was created by Ready Web; Helping Your Child Get Ready For School



The Center for Parent Involvement (FCPI) was funded by the U.S. Department of Education; Goals 2000, Educate America Act from 1994-1999. Guided by an advisory board of parents and professionals, the FCPI's goal was to tap the power of parents.

The FCPI gathered information on parent needs, coordinated the information, and created a series of resources organized by theme, including fact sheets for parents and professionals, "Beyond the Basics" resources, and resource identification lists. Many of the resources have been translated into Spanish language versions, and every effort has been made to preserve the meaning and flavor of the original English documents. This series of materials provides a wealth of current information for both parents and providers; the complete set of resources can be obtained in PDF format on the Department of Child and Family Studies Website at www.fmhi.usf.edu/cfs/dares/fcpi. The staff of the FCPI are hopeful that their work will continue to help children get ready to learn for many years to come.

The series' themes include:

- Family Empowerment
- Parent Involvement
- Parenting Support
- School Readiness
- Violence in the Lives of Children
- Transition to Kindergarten

The Center was one component of a project led by Hillsborough County Center of Excellence in collaboration with the Department of Child & Family Studies at USF's de la Parte Institute and the Florida Children's Forum. Other project partners include HIPPIY (Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters), Hillsborough County Head Start and Hillsborough County Even Start. For more information about these projects, call 813.974.4612.

School Readiness Series, Parent Tip Sheets, #1: Check it out.

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