

Screening Day Information

What will happen on the day of Kindergarten Screening?

Bring with you:

1. Your child
2. Proof of Residency
3. Certified Birth Certificate (not hospital certificate)

My child:

1. A Kindergarten Teacher will greet your child in the office
2. The Kindergarten Teacher will take your child to another room
3. While in the other room, your child will
 - a. Play with blocks
 - b. Recognize letters
 - c. Recognize numbers
 - d. Recognize/Draw shapes
 - e. Count objects

Parent:

1. Park in the Central Primary Parking lot
2. Come in through the main doors #2
3. Enter into the office
4. Check in with the office staff; a teacher will come shortly for your child
5. You will wait in the office
6. Fill out the Parent Questionnaire and give required documents to the office staff
7. Wait patiently for your child to return to you😊

The Kindergarten Teacher:

1. Will be Friendly
2. Will treat your child with Respect
3. Will be patient
4. Will give you suggestions to work on over the summer
5. Will **not** give you a copy of screening scores

Communication

Red Folders

- Will be handed out at Supply Drop Off Night/Meet the Teacher (August 14th @ 6-8pm)
- Folders are sent home and returned daily. Please check and empty folders daily.
- Teachers check folders every morning.
- The best ways to get information to your child 's teacher is a note in his/ her red folder.
- If sending money, please label with teacher, child name & purpose and put in an envelope.

Email

- Email addresses can be found on the Staff tab on Central 's website.
- Teachers try to check email before and after school.

Phone (309 444-3580)

- Teachers try to check messages be-

School Dismissal

- Dismissal on August 15 is at 11:30.
- Regular dismissal is at 3:15.
- Walkers are dismissed first. Students will report to the gym with assigned lines to sit in.
- Parents need to join the car line along the Ring Road.. **Please have your colored sign in the front passenger side window of your car.** This will help make our pick up process run smoothly and quickly. Staff members directing traffic will radio inside for students. **Students must enter cars on the curbside only.** To ensure a timely dismissal for all students, please remain in your vehicle.

–OR –

- Park in lot across from either school. K-1 parents are asked to form a line by the back blue gym door #8. At 3:15 the doors will open for parents to walk into the gym and collect your child.. Exit with your child through the other end of the gym..

Guide to The First Day of Kindergarten

2017-2018



Transitioning to Kindergarten

The first day of Kindergarten is an exciting first step in your child's educational experience. Here are a few tips to help provide a positive transition into Kindergarten.

- Recognize and manage your own emotions. Show your child how excited you are for his/her new adventure.
- Ease your child into the school bedtime routine. Getting to bed earlier and eating a good breakfast is important.
- Begin the year with his/her normal drop-off and pick-up routines. If he/she is a bus rider, encourage him/her to do that on the first day. Establishing daily routines are essential to helping your child feel confident.
- Research has shown that a child's adjustment to school has a significant impact on his/her later academic

Skills for Students

There are a few skills that will set your child up for success.

- Opening backpacks independently
- Opening items in his/her lunchbox
- Using the restroom independently (zipping/buttoning pants)
- Practice changing shoes (for PE). We encourage Velcro unless your child can tie independently.

Bus Tags

Your child will be given a colored bus tag (for PM bus only) at Meet the Teacher on August 14th.

- Your child needs to know what number bus he/she rides.
- Attach tag on the outside of his/her

Overview of the First Day of School

- Students arrive according to his/her normal transportation between 8:00-8:15.
- Bus riders are dropped off at the end of the K-1 hallway and will walk in a line to the gym. Walkers are dropped off at the main entrance and walk into the gym. Staff will be available to guide students to the gym (this is the procedure for the entire year).
- Kindergarten students will all sit in one line near the bleachers.
- Bell rings at 8:15 and grades 1-3 are dismissed.
- Kindergarten teachers will meet students in the gym by 8:15. Teachers will gather their own students. Teachers and other staff

Ready for Kindergarten?

On Target: Your child is doing great!

Mastery: Your child is doing even better than expected on this skill.

Red Flag: No need for panic! Just look for some playful learning activities to help your child grow in this area.

1. Counting

- **On Target:** Counting to 29 or 39
- **Mastery:** Counting to 100+
- **Red Flag:** Counting to 12

How to improve: Count anything and everything. Count aloud without counting actual objects.

2. The Alphabet

- **On Target:** Names all capital letters and some lowercase letters. Names half the sounds.
- **Mastery:** Names all capital and lowercase letters and every letter's sounds
- **Red Flag:** Names only a few capital letters and very few lowercase letters. Names only a few sounds.

How to improve: Point out letters every day until your child starts recognizing letters on his/her own.

3. Name Writing

- **On Target:** Can write first name legibly
- **Mastery:** Begins with a capital letter and follows with lowercase letters (first & last name)
- **Red Flag:** Cannot recognize her name, cannot spell it, or cannot write it

How to improve: Have your child write his/her name daily. Flip to a new page each day and watch as the name becomes smaller and more readable.

4. The Bathroom

- **On Target:** Is comfortable wearing his or her school clothes and operating the buttons, snaps and zippers independently
- **Mastery:** Can easily operate all kinds of fasteners on clothing without assistance
- **Red Flag:** Needs help removing and fastening clothing to use the bathroom

How to improve: Practice zipping, snapping and buttoning clothes.

5. Listening to Books

- **On Target:** Enjoys listening to a stack of picture books. Makes personal connections to stories and answers simple questions. May be recognizing a handful of familiar words.
- **Mastery:** Asks to be read to every day. Will listen to a large stack of picture books with good attention. Makes personal connections to stories and answers simple questions correctly. May be reading some books independently.
- **Red Flag:** Does not sit for more than 1-2 books at a time. Does not talk about books or ask basic questions. Cannot answer simple questions about a story. Usually prefers a screen to a book.

How to improve: Limit screen time and read to your child several times a day.

10 Kindergarten Readiness Skills

Here are the 10 kindergarten readiness skills to focus on as you work with your child. Don't be concerned if she does not have them all down before the first day of kindergarten, as she will continue to work on them throughout the year. Try a few activities listed for the skills your child might need to work on a bit more before she starts school.

1. Writing

- Help your child practice writing letters, especially the letters in his/her name.
- Teach your child how to write his/her name with an uppercase first letter and the remaining letters in lowercase.
- Write in shaving cream in the bathtub, salt or sugar in a cake pan or in finger paint to make practicing more fun and multisensory.

2. Letter Recognition

- Play games to help your child recognize some letters of the alphabet.
- Play hide and seek with refrigerator magnets.
- Rather than drilling your child with flashcards, use them to play a game of alphabet go fish.

3. Beginning Sounds

- Make your child aware of the sound that each letter makes.
- Find items around the house that begin with the same sound and identify the letter that makes each sound.
- Overemphasize the first sound in words to help your child hear the individual sounds in words.

4. Number Recognition and Counting

- Count throughout the day (for example, the crackers she is eating for snack or the socks in that you take out of the dryer).
- Point out numbers you see in your environment and have your child name them (for example, the numbers found on food boxes or street signs).

5. Shapes and Colors

- If your child is having trouble recognizing certain colors, you might add a little food coloring to cookie dough, milk or vanilla pudding to emphasize those colors.
- Help your child recognize more difficult shapes such as rhombus, hexagon and rectangles by showing him/her how to draw them on paper and cut them out.
- Play games in which your child finds objects of particular colors and shapes around the house or in the neighborhood as you drive.

6. Fine Motor Skills

- Give your child several different writing options (colored pencils, crayons or markers) to help keep his/her interested in writing and drawing.
- Playing with play dough is a fun way to strengthen the muscles of the hand that will be used for writing.

7. Cutting

- Purchase a good pair of child-safe scissors and let your child practice.
- Give him/her old magazines or newspapers to cut up, or allow him/her to make a collage of the things he/she likes by cutting them from magazines and gluing them to a piece of paper.
- Cutting play dough is also fun for children.

8. Reading Readiness

- Run your finger under the words as you read to your child to help him/her learn that words go from left to right and top to bottom.
- Play games with rhyming words to help your child hear similar sounds in words. For example, as you are going up the stairs, name one word that rhymes with cat for each step as you go up.

9. Attention and Following Directions

- Read lots of stories with your child and work up to reading longer chapter books, one chapter each night or as long as he/she remains interested and focused.
- Give your child two and three step directions. For example: "put on your pajamas, brush your teeth and pick a book to read."
- Play Simon Says with two or three step directions. For example: "Simon Says jump up and down and shout hooray."

10. Social Skills

- Give your children opportunities to interact with other children in preschool, church or social groups or play dates.
- Teach your child how to express his/her feelings if she doesn't like something.
- Role-play different situations he/she might experience on the playground or at school. Help him/her find solutions for typical problems he/she might encounter.

Sight Words that will be taught in

Kindergarten

Trimester 1:

red	a	I	see	blue	my
the	green	go	to	brown	and
can	orange	you	am	yellow	on
look	pink	is	at	of	me
this	purple	he	she	black	

Trimester 2:

we	in	white	do	like	it
come	up	here	play	for	said
down	jump	big	little	one	where
help	away	two	so	not	funny
all	run	get	did		

Trimester 3:

find	make	three	are	they
what	have	out	with	was
be	no	now	yes	into
who	ran	that	our	saw
will	but	came	four	went
good	want	must		

Strategies to use at home to support

Reading Instruction

To support **print concepts**, parents can:

- *Point out the title and author's name to their child when reading together
- *Talk about where reading begins on the page and show how the words flow left to right
- *Play games to match lowercase and uppercase letters
- *Talk about how types of texts have similarities and differences
- *Expose their child to many types of print
- *Make a book with their child, using large print and illustrations

To support their child's **phonemic awareness**:

- *Sing alphabet songs with their child
- *Read stories that their child chooses
- *Help their child clap the beats or syllables in words
- *Point out letters, especially letters in their child's name
- *Play with language and rhymes
- *Sing songs that manipulate phonemes, such as *The Name Game*

To support **phonics** instruction, parents can:

- *Talk with the teacher about their child's phonics progress
- *Encourage children to point to words and say them out loud when writing
- *Listen to their child read
- *Help children sort words by long-and short vowel sounds
- *Help children define larger words by breaking them into smaller chunks
- *Play spelling and word games like Scrabble and Hang Man

To support the development of **fluency**, parents can:

- *Read aloud often, encouraging their child to read aloud, too
- *Let their child choose books to read and reread favorite books
- *Model reading for fun and pleasure
- *Act out a book or story
- *Read aloud a sentence and then invite their child to read the same sentence (echo read)
- *Help their children read new words and talk about the meaning

To support the development of **vocabulary**, parents can:

- *Read aloud a variety of genres
- *Talk with their child about daily events and about books they read together
- *Talk about how the illustrations and text in a book support each other
- *Use word lists provided by their child's teacher in natural conversation
- *Search for new words in texts with their child and look them up in the dictionary

To support **comprehension**, parents can:

- *Ask their child to predict what might happen next in a story
- *Ask who, what, where, when, and why questions about a book
- *Ask their child questions about the topic of a book before reading it
- *Ask their child about books being read at school and be familiar with them in order to extend conversations
- *Ask their child what the main idea or message of a book might be