

# Welcome To Kindergarten at Remington Elementary



## Is your child ready for kindergarten?

Before kindergarten begins in August, these are the skills that your child should have acquired. Independence in these areas will help the classroom run more smoothly and improve your child's self-confidence.

- Hold a pencil correctly
- Hold scissors correctly and cut on a straight line
- Copy a basic shape such as a circle, rectangle, or triangle
- Draw a human face including eyes, nose and mouth
- Write first name correctly
- Recognize the letters in his/her name
- Recognize at least 15 letters
- Recognize the 8 basic colors
- Recognize the 4 main shapes (circle, square, rectangle, and triangle)
- Count to 20
- Recognize numbers 1-10



**If you are uncertain whether your child is ready for kindergarten, the following are some factors to consider when making your decision:**

- Your child's chronological age
- Your child's physical size
- Your child's overall maturity
- Your child's special needs
- Your child's position in the family
- Stresses in the family (e.g. new sibling, divorce, move to a new city, etc.)
- Difficult births
- Chronic diseases (e.g. asthma, ear infections, strep throat, etc.)

## Is your child able to...

- Understand sharing and be willing to share with others?
- Communicate with peers?
- Understand taking turns?
- Show concern and comfort for siblings and playmates in distress?
- Cooperate with playmates and understand the need for rules in playing games?
- Respond to frustrating situations appropriately?
- Separate from his/her parent?
- Attend to an activity without being easily distracted or distracting to others?
- Follow verbal directions?
- Use the bathroom independently?
- Button/zip/snap/tie independently?



*If your child does not have these skills yet, you may want to consider a preschool program for the upcoming school year. This will give your child the necessary exposure of the above skills and allow them an advantage in kindergarten the following school year*

## Readiness is...

**A child who listens:**

- To directions without interrupting
- To stories and poems for five to ten minutes without restlessness

**A child who hears:**

- Words that begin with the same sound or different sounds

**A child who sees:**

- Likenesses and differences in pictures and designs
- Letters and words that match

**A child who understands:**

- The relationship inherent in such words as up and down, top and bottom, over and under, little and big
- The classification of words that represent people, places, and things

**A child who speaks clearly and can:**

- Stay on the topic in class discussions
- Tell a story or relate an experience of his/her own

**A child who thinks and can:**

- Give unique ideas and important details
- Give reason for his/her opinion

**A child who obeys:**

- Classroom rules as established by the teacher
- Safety rules on the playground
- Fire drill rules quickly and quietly

**A child who plays:**

- Cooperatively with other children and shares, takes turns, and assumes his share of group responsibility,
- and can run, jump, skip, and bounce a ball with comparative dexterity

**A child who works:**

- Without being easily distracted, and follows directions and completes each task and takes pride in his/her work



### Getting Ready for Kindergarten...Here are some resources to get you started...

- “Handwriting Without Tears” worksheets: <http://www.hwtears.com/parents/parentextras> (This program will be used at Remington)
- Letter and numbers worksheets: [www.justmommies.com](http://www.justmommies.com) (Look under “Preschooler Education)
- Pre-reading practice: [www.starfall.com](http://www.starfall.com)
- Reading, math, social skills: [www.pbskids.org](http://www.pbskids.org) ; [www.sproutonline.com](http://www.sproutonline.com) ; [www.playhousedisney.com](http://www.playhousedisney.com)
- All subjects: [www.perpetualpreschool.com](http://www.perpetualpreschool.com)
- Kindergarten Preparation: purchase “What your Kindergartener Needs to Know: Preparing Your Child for a Lifetime of Learning”, E.D. Hirsch, Jr. (amazon.com and *Mardels* on Powers Boulevard carry them—approx. \$15)—lots of valuable information for preparation and participation throughout the kindergarten school year.

# What will my child be learning?

## Phonics

- A-Z Letter/sound recognition
- Blends: bl, gl, pl, cl, fl, sl
- Digraphs: sh, th, ch
- Combinations: qu
- Syllables



## Writing

- Correct pencil grip
- A-Z Letter/sound application
- Writing first and last name
- Pictures to represent meaning
- Random letters to represent meaning
- Transitional spelling
- Complete sentences



## Reading

- A-Z Letter/sound application
- Rhyming
- Blending and segmenting sounds
- Sound oddity recognition
- Sound manipulation
- Book handling
- Reading strategies
- Tricky words
- Story comprehension, recall, and development
- Cooperative and independent reading of decodable stories



## Math

- Number recognition
- Number writing
- Counting by 1's, 5's, and 10's to 100
- Measurement
- Sorting and classifying

- Two and Three dimensional shapes
- Beginning addition and subtraction

## Science

- 5 senses
- Living vs. Non-living
- Plants
- Farms
- Seasons and Weather
- Taking Care of the Earth



## Social Studies

- Native Americans
- Kings and Queens
- Christopher Columbus and Pilgrims
- Colonial Towns
- Presidents and American Symbols

## Learning Centers

- Computers
- Writing
- Reading
- Math
- Puzzles

## Specials Classes

- Art
- PE
- Music
- Library
- Project Lead The Way
- Computers
- morning, lunch, and afternoon recess



## Sample Kindergarten Schedule

7:55 Morning Activities

8:15 Skill Strand (phonics)

9:00 Recess/Snack

9:20 Literacy Block (small groups)

10:25 Recess/Lunch

11:00 DEAR

11:20 Math

12:20 Specials

1:10 Recess/Snack

1:30 Listening and Learning Strand

2:20 Interventions/Centers

3:00 Dismissal