### Skills Your Child Needs for Kindergarten

#### Language Skills
- **Speaks in complete sentences.**
- **Can be understood by others most of the time.**
- **Uses words to express needs and wants.**
- **Understands two-step directions.**
- **Makes comparisons and describes relationships between objects such as big/little, under/over and first/last.**

#### Fine Motor Skills
- **Uses a pencil or crayon with some control.**
- **Can use scissors.**
- **Copies basic shapes.**
- **Uses a pencil or crayon to make markings on paper including lines, symbols and attempts at alphabet letters.**
- **Does a simple puzzle.**

#### Gross Motor Skills
- **Runs.**
- **Can jump with feet together.**
- **Hops on one foot.**
- **Climbs stairs.**
- **Bounces and tries to catch a ball.**

#### Math Skills
- **Counts from 1 to 10 without skipping numbers.**
- **Matches a number to a group of five or fewer items (“I see three cats and four dogs”).**
- **Names and recognizes basic shapes (square, circle, triangle, rectangle).**
- **Understands more than and less than.**
- **Can name or point to the colors in a box of eight crayons.**
- **Can arrange three picture cards or objects in the right order (such as from smallest to biggest).**

#### Reading Readiness Skills
- **Enjoys listening to stories and knows how to find the first page of a book and which way to flip the pages.**
- **Recognizes familiar logos and signs, such as stop signs.**
- **Can recite the alphabet and identify most of the letters.**
- **Recognizes and tries to write own name.**
- **Recognizes when two words rhyme (such as cat and bat).**
- **Begins to connect letter sounds to letters (such as the sound of the first letter in her name).**
- **Can draw a picture to express an idea.**
## Self-Care Skills
- Uses the bathroom and washes up independently.
- Does basic self-dressing (may still need help with buttons, zippers and shoelaces).
- Knows and can say full name and age.

## Social and Emotional Skills
- Can separate from you without getting overly upset.
- Interacts with other kids.
- Can pay attention for at least five minutes to a task an adult is leading, such as listening to directions for an activity or discussing the day’s weather during circle time.