

## ***The Learning Center*** - Goals for Preparing a Child for Kindergarten

The process of preparing a child to enter school starts with a strong foundation in all areas of development. The progression is continuous, beginning as early as infancy and continuing throughout the Preschool years. Our curriculum supports growth and success in all areas of child development from social and emotional maturity to physical, creative and cognitive development.

When preparing a child for Kindergarten our goal is to ensure that he/she is able to .....

### Social / Emotional

- Sustain an attention span for a minimum of 15 minutes
- Show an interest in learning and completing a task
- Demonstrate self control
- Smoothly transition from one activity to the next
- Express feelings and vocalize wants / needs
- Seek help when needed
- Understand and follows classroom rules
- Understand and follow oral direction
- Keep to the classroom routine with ease
- Clean up after oneself
- Cooperate and play well with other children
- Demonstrate empathy for others
- Solve simple conflicts

### Physical

- Demonstrate strength with the use of large muscles (climbing, dancing, hopping, jumping, running, swinging, movement activities, catching and throwing)
- Exhibit strength and control with fine motor development
- Display hand-eye coordination
- Show confidence and control with the use of writing, drawing, and art tools (pencils, crayons, paint brushes, scissors)

### Self help

- Wash his/her own hands properly
- Toilet independently
- Dress oneself independently (including coat)
- Eat without assistance
- Recognizes his/her own possessions

### Cognitive

- Speak clearly and in complete sentences
- Understand and use new words
- Ask lots of questions
- Tell about an experience or interests
- Understand and exercise basic math and science concepts (patterns, sorting, classifying, sequencing, positions, order, attributes, rote counting, counting items, number recognition)
- Identify with confidence shapes and colors
- Recognize and spell his/her name
- Recognize some letters (especially those in his/her name)
- Recognize some printed words including signs and labels in the environment
- Begin recognizing some letter sounds
- Write some letters (especially those in his/her first name)
- Write his/her first name
- Hold a book upright and turn pages correctly
- Show an interest in books and reading
- Tell and retell familiar stories
- Participate in rhyming games / activities

### Creative

- Explore and discover using a variety of art and sensory mediums
- Express thoughts and ideas with drawing and art
- Mimic real life experiences and roles through pretend play
- Participate in music and movement experiences