

Transitioning to kindergarten milestones

ECE educators play a pivotal role in preparing children and their families for the exciting journey into kindergarten. **Working toward these milestones** can help ensure the children in your class are better equipped to navigate that transition.

Common early childhood milestones

Every child's development is unique. However, many children begin to display the following skills and perform the following activities once they reach kindergarten.



Social/emotional

- Change behavior based on their location (ex. being quiet in a library)
- Perform basic self-help skills like dressing, feeding, and personal hygiene
- Interact with other children through group play, sharing, and turn-taking
- Sing, dance, or act for you
- Help with simple chores at home



Language/communication

- Say sentences with at least four words
- Keep a conversation going with at least three back-and-forth exchanges
- Recognize and use simple rhymes
- Answer simple questions about a story after hearing it
- Tell a story with at least two events
- Answer simple questions (Ex. what is a crayon for?)



Cognitive

- Count to 10
- Recognize shapes and colors
- Begin to name and write some letters
- Pay attention for 5 to 10 minutes during an activity
- Use words relating to time (Ex. morning, tomorrow)



Gross/fine motor skills

- Properly hold a pencil
- Use safety scissors
- Button some buttons
- Hop on one foot
- Climb playground equipment

For more ECE teaching resources, visit
chshslearn.org/resources/for-professionals/



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for early learning