What is School Readiness?

A child who is ready for school is one who:

1. Interacts positively with older children and adults.
2. Has age-appropriate language skills.
3. Can focus and pay attention to another person or activity.
4. Can express feelings in words and actions.
5. Has appropriate physical skills.
6. Has appropriate thinking skills.
7. Has appropriate social skills.
8. Is curious and loves learning new things.
10. Has appropriate emotional skills.

What can you do to help your child develop these skills?

For more information please download our milestone & activity guidebook at www.talkreadplay.org.

For more information in your neighborhood contact:

Thomas M. Menino, Mayor of Boston

Follow simple two-step instructions such as:

1. Go to the bathroom and wash your hands.
2. Cover her mouth when she coughs.
3. Help your child practice his independence.
4. Talk with her about what she's seeing, hearing, and touching.
5. Spend time with peers. Ensure that your child has lots of opportunities to share, take turns, control herself and herself.
6. Read stories to your child.
7. Improve balance.
8. Help your child learn to say her full name, address and telephone number.
10. Take a large paintbrush and pail of water.

3–4 years old

1. Take five or ten minutes to complete each activity once you complete it.
2. Go to the bathroom and wash your hands.
3. Cover her mouth when she coughs.
4. Read stories to your child.
5. Help her manage feelings.
6. Let your child practice his independence.
7. Improve balance.
8. Help your child feel good about being yourself.
9. Sing your way through routines.
10. Have your child stand on one foot and other foot.

5–6 years old

1. Draw a picture.
2. Play the Dr. Seuss book during your child's baby pictures.
3. Help your child feel good about being himself/herself.
4. Read stories to your child.
5. Help your child manage feelings.
6. Let your child practice his independence.
7. Improve balance.
8. Help your child feel good about being himself/herself.
9. Sing your way through routines.
10. Have your child stand on one foot and other foot.

0–15 months

1. Babies love to look at themselves and touching. It's all part of learning!
2. Sing the Dr. Seuss book during your child's baby pictures.
3. Help your child feel good about being himself/herself.
4. Read stories to your child.
5. Help your child manage feelings.
6. Let your child practice his independence.
7. Improve balance.
8. Help your child feel good about being himself/herself.
9. Sing your way through routines.
10. Have your child stand on one foot and other foot.

5 years old

1. Talk with her about what she's seeing, hearing, and touching.
2. Read stories to your child.
3. Improve balance.
4. Help your child feel good about being himself/herself.
5. Sing your way through routines.
6. Have your child stand on one foot and other foot.
7. Read stories to your child.
8. Improve balance.
9. Help your child feel good about being himself/herself.
10. Sing your way through routines.