

## **KINDERGARTEN READINESS CHECKLIST**

This list identifies skills, knowledge and behaviors that will help your child be prepared for Kindergarten. Please use this checklist as a tool to help your child make this important transition. *This is a parent resource. This is NOT a required list of skills for admission to Kindergarten at St. Mary Magdalene Catholic School.*

### **SOCIAL EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

- Separates willingly from caregiver to another trusted adult.
- Shares, takes turns, and plays cooperatively with other children.
- Expresses basic emotions such as happy, sad, mad or scared.
- Responds empathetically to others' distress with words or actions.
- Recognizes similarities and differences in self and others.

### **COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT**

- Is curious, interested, and willing to try new things.
- Completes a task such as a puzzle independently.
- Adapts to new situations.
- Focuses and pays attention during an activity such as story time.
- Engages in memory games such as "What's Missing" and simple memory matching card games.
- Uses drawings to express feelings.

### **PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT**

- Gallops, slides, hops, leaps, skips and balances.
- Catches a ball with both hands.
- Tosses or throws a ball.
- Kicks moving ball while running.
- Pours liquids without spilling and builds with Legos or other blocks.
- Uses a 3-point finger grip on a pencil, crayon or paintbrush.
- Makes a variety of lines and shapes.
- Uses scissors correctly to cut simple shapes and pictures.
- Buttons, zips, laces and buckles.
- Is aware of safe behavior and follows basic safety rules and routines.
- Takes responsibility for personal self-care routines such as hand washing, brushing teeth, dressing and toileting.
- Can express own health needs such as "I'm hungry," or "My head hurts."



## **LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT**

- Understands an increasing number and variety of words for actions, for objects, and to describe things.
- Comprehend who, what, why, where, and when questions.
- Performs up to three-step directions.
- Uses four-to-six-word sentences.
- Tells increasingly detailed stories or ideas.
- Communicates clearly enough to be understood by people outside of the family.

## **EMERGENT LITERACY**

- Listen, retells, and engages in story being read.
- Participates in singing songs and saying rhymes.
- Retells stories from favorite books and personal experiences.
- Decides if two words rhyme.
- Recognizes and names letters of the alphabet, even when seen out of order.
- Recognizes and writes own name.
- Produces the correct sounds for some of the letters of the alphabet.
- Writes capital letters correctly and some lowercase, especially those in own name.

## **MATHEMATICAL THINKING**

- Counts in sequence at least to 20.
- Recognizes numbers 1-20, even when seen out of order.
- Understands and uses terms such as first, second, and last.
- Counts objects using one number for each object.
- Sorts objects by color, shape, and size.
- Understands concepts of more and less.
- Recognizes and extends patterns.
- Arranges objects from shortest to longest.
- Recognizes names for shapes and colors.
- Understands and uses positional words.

## **ADDITIONAL SKILLS**

- Knows first and last name, age, and names of all family members.
- Understands and talks about yesterday, today, tomorrow, morning, afternoon, and night.
- Explores drawing and can draw a detailed self-portrait.
- Enjoys pretend play.

