

# THE PARENT'S GUIDE to a Successful School Year

## PRESCHOOL – 5<sup>th</sup> GRADE



A practical guide for parents

**Lakeshore®**

This guide includes a list of skills children should know when they begin **preschool-5th grade**. Based on nationally recognized standards, these skills are also aligned to learning essentials that help children reach educational goals. Use this guide at your local **Lakeshore Learning Store**, and we'll help you find the materials your child needs for a **fun** and **successful** school year!





# What Your Child Should Know When Entering Preschool

- ✓ State his or her name, age and birthday.
- ✓ Identify some colors and shapes.
- ✓ Count from 1 to 5.
- ✓ Understand the concept of "same" and "different."
- ✓ Recognize some letters.
- ✓ Tell stories.
- ✓ Express thoughts and needs verbally, with a growing vocabulary.
- ✓ Engage in pretend play.
- ✓ Follow simple instructions (e.g., "Please put your lunch box on the shelf.").
- ✓ Sit still while listening to a story.
- ✓ Dress himself or herself.
- ✓ Use child-sized scissors.
- ✓ Kick and throw a ball.
- ✓ Play with other children and share toys.
- ✓ Put away toys on his or her own.
- ✓ Be comfortable in group settings.
- ✓ Recognize others' emotions.
- ✓ Play with other children.
- ✓ Take turns and share toys.
- ✓ String large beads.
- ✓ Draw with crayons and pencils.
- ✓ Recite the alphabet.

## Recommended Products

- Alphabet books
- Blocks
- Learning-to-dress toys
- Dolls & puppets
- Kitchen playsets
- Storybooks
- Dress-up clothes
- Color & shape puzzles
- Balls
- Art supplies & scissors
- Sound sorting computer games
- Large stringing beads



# What Your Child Should Know When Entering Pre-Kindergarten

- ✓ Kick and throw a ball.
- ✓ Cut with scissors.
- ✓ Know his or her own birthday, address and phone number.
- ✓ Count from 1 to 10.
- ✓ Recognize and name numerals 1 to 5.
- ✓ Recognize and name the following simple shapes: square, triangle, circle, rectangle & oval.
- ✓ Recognize and name the following colors: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple, brown, black and white.
- ✓ Follow simple two-step directions.
- ✓ Identify simple patterns (e.g., red, blue, red, blue, red, blue).
- ✓ Place objects in two or more groups based on their differences (e.g., by color, size or shape).
- ✓ Identify the sounds of a few letters.
- ✓ Retell simple stories and nursery rhymes.
- ✓ Compare and order objects in relation to size or length (e.g., place blocks side by side in order, from smallest to largest).
- ✓ Recognize some letters (especially those in his or her name).
- ✓ Ask and answer questions about stories.

## Recommended Products

- **Number & counting puzzles**
- **Magnetic or foam letters**
- **Alphabet stamps & stamp pad**
- **Color books & games**
- **Balls**
- **Art supplies & scissors**
- **Storybooks**





# What Your Child Should Know When Entering Kindergarten

- ✓ Recall his or her first and last name and the names of family members.
- ✓ Recognize and name the following colors: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple, brown, black and white.
- ✓ Recognize and name the following simple shapes: square, triangle, circle, rectangle & oval.
- ✓ Recognize, name and count numbers from 1 to 10.
- ✓ Understand the use of ordinal numbers (i.e., first, second, third).
- ✓ Recognize and name most upper- and lowercase letters.
- ✓ Identify parts of his or her body, and basic articles of clothing (e.g., hat, shoes, shirt).
- ✓ Identify familiar buildings (e.g., school, store, hospital).
- ✓ Understand general time concepts (e.g., yesterday, today, tomorrow, last week).
- ✓ Follow simple two-step directions.
- ✓ Attempt to tie his or her shoes.
- ✓ Begin to hold a pencil correctly.
- ✓ Catch a large ball with both hands.
- ✓ Produce the correct sound for 10 to 20 letters.
- ✓ Retell simple stories in proper sequence.
- ✓ Identify simple rhymes (e.g., cat and hat).
- ✓ Use like objects to measure and compare lengths.



## Recommended Products

- Alphabet puzzles, games & books
- Magnetic or foam letters
- Alphabet stamps & stamp pad
- Number & counting puzzles
- Math counters & counting boxes
- Number stamps & stamp pad
- Color books & games
- Sound sorting computer games
- Storytelling puppets



# What Your Child Should Know When Entering 1st Grade

- ✓ Count by ones, fives and tens to 100.
- ✓ Understand the use of one-to-one correspondence in counting (i.e., counting one object per number).
- ✓ Recall simple addition and subtraction facts with answers up to 10.
- ✓ Understand that clocks are used to measure the passing of time.
- ✓ Identify and write upper- and lowercase letters from A to Z.
- ✓ Understand that letters can be combined to make different sounds.
- ✓ Begin to read simple three-letter words.
- ✓ Summarize or retell a story that you have read to him or her.
- ✓ Write his or her first and last name.
- ✓ Name the days of the week and months of the year.
- ✓ Follow classroom rules and take turns.
- ✓ Correctly hold a pencil or crayon.
- ✓ Cut with scissors along a straight line.



## Recommended Products

- Alphabet books
- Magnetic or foam letters
- Letter stamps & stamp pads
- Printing practice cards
- Sight-word flash cards
- Writing paper & pencils
- Math counters & counting boxes
- Counting games
- Number stamps & stamp pad
- Read-along sets (books with recordings that narrate the story)
- Math & language computer games





# What Your Child Should Know When Entering 2nd Grade

- ✓ Recall simple addition facts with sums up to 20 and their corresponding subtraction facts.
- ✓ Perform two-digit addition and subtraction problems without regrouping.
- ✓ Tell time to the hour and half hour on an analog clock.
- ✓ Identify pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters and their values.
- ✓ Identify and extend simple patterns.
- ✓ Understand the concepts of "greater than," "less than" and "equal to."
- ✓ Recall events that happen at the beginning, in the middle and at the end of a story.
- ✓ Write complete sentences with correct punctuation and capitalization.
- ✓ Identify the five senses and the body parts associated with each.
- ✓ Read and follow simple directions.
- ✓ Decode three- and four-letter words.



## Recommended Products

- Phonics books & games
- Sight-word flash cards
- Sight-word games
- Word magnets
- Language games
- Easy readers
- Writing journal
- Addition/subtraction flash cards
- Addition/subtraction games
- Beginning math bingo games
- Practice clock
- Math & language computer games



## What Your Child Should Know When Entering 3rd Grade

- ✓ Add and subtract multiple-digit numbers with regrouping (i.e., addition problems that require “carrying” a number from one place value to the next).
- ✓ Understand the basic concept of multiplication.
- ✓ Tell time to the hour, the half hour, the quarter hour and in five-minute intervals on an analog clock.
- ✓ Use coins to make and count change.
- ✓ Understand word problems and solve them using correct mathematical calculations.
- ✓ Read and comprehend paragraphs, short stories and simple chapter books.
- ✓ Read aloud with fluency and expression.
- ✓ Identify high-frequency words with unusual spellings.
- ✓ Work cooperatively with a partner or in a group.

### Recommended Products

- Language games
- Reading comprehension practice books & cards
- Word puzzle activities
- Simple chapter books
- Reading comprehension games
- Writing journal with ideas or prompts
- Addition/subtraction practice books
- Money puzzles & games
- Practice clock
- Math & language computer games

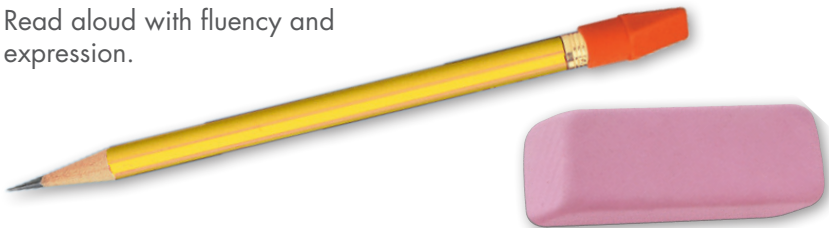






## What Your Child Should Know When Entering 4th Grade

- ✓ Multiply and divide single-digit numbers.
- ✓ Calculate elapsed time.
- ✓ Understand the concept of place value and decimals as they relate to whole numbers.
- ✓ Compare fractions.
- ✓ Read and comprehend chapter books.
- ✓ Read aloud with fluency and expression.
- ✓ Understand unfamiliar words by using context clues.
- ✓ Read about a topic in order to gain more information.
- ✓ Write a structured paragraph about a topic.
- ✓ Know and use the steps of the writing process, including pre-writing, revising and editing.



## Recommended Products

- **Nonfiction books**
- **Vocabulary games**
- **Reading comprehension practice books & cards**
- **Writing prompt cards or writing journal**
- **Chapter books**
- **Math fact games**
- **Problem solving practice books**
- **Addition/subtraction and multiplication/division practice books**
- **Fraction magnets**
- **Geometric shapes kits**
- **Math & language computer games**

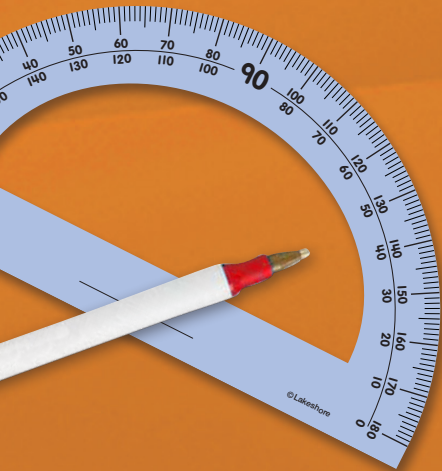


# What Your Child Should Know When Entering 5th Grade

- ✓ Multiply two- and three-digit numbers.
- ✓ Divide multiple-digit numbers by one-digit numbers.
- ✓ Use reference materials to look up information.
- ✓ Read and comprehend chapter books, nonfiction books and magazine articles.
- ✓ Demonstrate reading comprehension with oral and written book reports.
- ✓ Add, subtract and multiply fractions.
- ✓ Compare fractions and decimals.
- ✓ Write a paragraph for a specific purpose that includes a topic sentence, supporting details and a conclusion.
- ✓ Successfully follow the steps of the writing process, including pre-writing, revising and editing.

## Recommended Products

- **Novels/chapter books**
- **Nonfiction books**
- **Reading comprehension practice books & games**
- **Math practice books**
- **Math games**
- **Fraction/decimal manipulatives**
- **Problem solving cards and practice books**
- **Writing journal**
- **Thesaurus**
- **Math & language computer games**



# Free CRAFTS for KIDS

*Join us Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.*



# FREE Resources



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