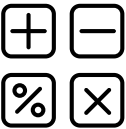
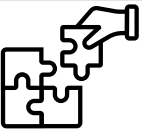


Why Preschool Matters

10 Ways Preschool Prepares Children for Kindergarten

Kindergarten readiness is about much more than knowing letters and numbers. Every day in preschool, children are developing the skills they need to become confident learners.

	Social Skills: Children learn to share, take turns, solve conflicts, and build friendships through everyday interactions. These skills help them work and learn successfully with classmates.
	Emotional Regulation: Preschool helps children recognize and manage big feelings, develop self-control, and learn healthy ways to handle frustration, disappointment, and change.
	Independence: From opening lunch containers to putting on coats and cleaning up after themselves, children practice the everyday routines that help them feel confident and capable in kindergarten.
	Communication Daily conversations, stories, songs, and group activities help children expand their vocabulary, express their ideas, ask questions, and communicate their needs with confidence.
	Early Literacy: Reading together, exploring books, writing, and playing with letters and sounds help children develop the foundation they need to become successful readers, without pressure to read before kindergarten.
	Early Math: Counting, sorting, measuring, comparing, and recognizing patterns through play build the mathematical thinking skills children will continue to use throughout school.
	Problem Solving: Children learn to ask questions, think critically, try different solutions, and keep going when something doesn't work the first time—skills that support success in every subject.
	Fine Motor Skills: Activities like drawing, painting, cutting, building, and using play dough strengthen the hand muscles and coordination children need for writing and other classroom tasks.
	Learning Through Play: Play is how young children learn best. Purposeful play encourages creativity, curiosity, critical thinking, and a love of learning while helping children make sense of the world around them.
	Confidence: Perhaps the most important skill of all, preschool helps children believe in themselves. Children who are willing to try new things, ask for help, and keep learning are well prepared for kindergarten and beyond.