

**DOWNERS GROVE GRADE SCHOOL DISTRICT 58**  
**KEYS TO KINDERGARTEN SUCCESS**

Name:

Children develop at different paces. This is a guide to help you prepare for your child's kindergarten experience.

**Social/Emotional/Behavior**

- Can interact/play/share with others
- Can wait and take turns
- Can adjust to new situations, transitions, including cleaning up
- Can make independent choices
- Can attend to an activity/story for 5+ minutes
- Can use please and thank you
- Can cover coughs and sneezes

**Physical**

- Can manage bathroom needs and wash hands independently
- Can put on, take off, button and zip own clothing
- Can put on and fasten own shoes independently
- Has had experiences with cutting, tracing, painting, drawing and holding a marker, crayon or pencil
- Has had experiences with puzzles
- Has had experiences running, hopping and jumping, throwing and catching

**Language**

- Can verbally express needs and wants
- Has had experiences talking about everyday activities
- Is beginning to initiate conversation in play, i.e. ask a friend to play
- Can ask and answer questions
- Can say full name
- Has had experiences being read to individually and in a group
- Has had exposure to fairy tales, nursery rhymes, poetry, fiction and nonfiction
- Has had exposure to basic concept of print, i.e., finger pointing to pictures, letters and words
- Can use pictures in books to tell a story
- Has had experiences with rhyming words and beginning sounds
- Can recognize a majority of the alphabet letters in random order
- Has had exposure to all the sounds of the alphabet letters
- Can recognize first name in print
- Can write own first name using upper and lower case letters
- Is beginning to know phone number, address and birthday.

**Cognitive**

- Can sort items by color, shape and size
- Can recognize colors
- Can recognize shapes: square, circle, triangle, rectangle and rhombus
- Can count to 20 and count objects
- Can recognize 0-10 in random order
- Can recognize patterns, i.e., red/blue, red/blue
- Has had exposure to coins: penny, nickel, dime, and quarter