



THE READY CHILD

“Children who enter kindergarten ready to meet its academic, social, and emotional demands are more likely to achieve later academic and life success.”¹

What is school readiness?

School readiness involves more than just children. In the broadest sense, school readiness is about children, families, early environments, schools, and communities. Children are not innately “ready” or “not ready” for school. Their skills and development are strongly influenced by their families and through their interactions with other people and environments before coming to school.²

School readiness occurs when children have the skills, knowledge, and attitudes necessary for success in primary school, later learning, and life. Physical, cognitive, social, and emotional development are essential ingredients of school readiness. School readiness refers not only to ready children, but to ready communities, families, and schools.³



Exhibits Physical Health and Emotional Well-Being

- [News You Can Use: Foundations of School Readiness: Physical Development and Health](#)
- [Ready or Not Kindergarten, Here we Come](#)
- [Fostering Healthy Social and Emotional Development in Young Children](#)
- [Physical and Mental Well-Being](#)



Demonstrates Curiosity and Confidence to Learn in School

- [All Children Ready for School: Approaches to Learning](#)
- [School Transition: Starting School on the Right Foot](#)
- [Initiative and Curiosity – Do](#)
- [From the National Association for the Education of Young Children \(NAEYC\): Excerpt from Nurturing Creativity: An Essential Mindset for Young Children’s Learning](#)
- [Readiness: Not a State of Knowledge, but a State of Mind](#)



Displays Skills in General Knowledge, Language, Cognition, and Numeracy

- [Foundational Skills to Support Reading for Understanding in Kindergarten Through 3rd Grade](#)
- [Early Learning and School Readiness: Cognition Development and General Knowledge Tip Sheet](#)
- [Teaching Math to Young Children](#)

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¹ Stedron, J., & Berger, A. (2010). NCSL technical report: State approaches to school readiness assessment. Denver, CO: National Conference of State Legislators. <http://www.ncsl.org/documents/Educ/KindergartenAssessment.pdf>.

² Maxwell, K., & Clifford, R. M. (2004) *Research in review: School readiness assessment*. *Young Children* Volume 59(1), 42-46.

³ Head Start, <https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/school-readiness>, retrieved January 12, 2018.

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