

Preparing Your Child for School: Key Steps for Readiness



Highlights

Starting school is an important milestone in a child's life. A range of skills is needed to ensure a smooth and successful transition.

Most children begin school between the ages of 4 and 5, with compulsory education generally starting no later than age 6.

From the very first days and weeks, children will use physical, social, emotional, and communication skills.

If a child has special educational needs, physical challenges, or learning difficulties, it is helpful to check in advance what support is available.

Encouraging independence and developing various skills will help prepare children for school.

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What Does 'Being Ready' for School Mean?

Why Do These Skills Matter?

Do Children Need to Know the Alphabet or Numbers Before School?

How to Make an Informed Decision About School Readiness?

How to Help a Child Prepare for School?

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Tools And Assistance.

What Does 'Being Ready' for School Mean?

Why Do These Skills Matter?

Separate from you without being upset.

Wait patiently for attention in a group.

Take turns, share, and cooperate with other children.

Follow instructions.

Express feelings and needs politely.

Stick with tasks.

Cope with frustration.

Do Children Need to Know the Alphabet or Numbers Before School?

How to Make an Informed Decision About School Readiness?

Observing how your child copes in different situations and helping them learn ways to manage challenges.

Asking educators at a day care or preschool how your child responds in social or learning situations, and what skills need strengthening.

Speaking with early childhood staff at the school you plan to choose about how they can meet your child's needs.

Checking how the school intends to support children with physical or learning disabilities or other special needs.

How to Help a Child Prepare for School?

Introducing a daily routine similar to a school schedule.

Practicing self-care tasks such as dressing, buttoning clothes, or using fasteners.

Encouraging independence in packing lunch or organizing belongings.

Assigning simple household responsibilities, such as feeding a pet or setting the table.

Visiting the school environment ahead of time, including play areas, classrooms, and restrooms.

How to Support Social Development Before School?

Arrange opportunities to meet the teacher and future classmates.

Organize playdates to practice sharing and turn-taking.

Encourage group games to build patience and cooperation.

Model healthy ways to resolve disagreements.

Praise independent efforts with specific feedback.

Reassure children that challenges are normal and support is available from teachers and caregivers.

Tools And Assistance