

Your child will be expected to know the words below. They are known as "sight words" because some of the words cannot be sounded out. Sight words are found in many of your child's first books.

PRE-PRIMER SIGHT WORDS

a	l	run
and	in	said
away	is	see
big	it	the
blue	jump	three
can	little	to
come	look	two
down	make	up
find	me	we
for	my	where
funny	not	yellow
go	one	you
help	play	
here	red	

In addition to the sight words, your child will also learn words that are important in each week's reading story.

How Can You Help Your Child?

1. Support & celebrate your child's independence. Give lots of praise for things that your child has learned to do on his or her own, such as brushing teeth, washing hands, putting on shoes, zipping jacket, riding a tricycle, and buttoning shirt.
2. Encourage your child to listen and use words to express ideas.
3. Take time each day to talk and listen to your child. Good times for conversations include when you are traveling, during meals, and at bedtime.
4. Read and tell stories that have interesting characters and easy-to-understand plots.
5. Read and sing nursery rhymes and rhyming stories with your child.
6. Use number words, point out numbers, and involve your child in counting activities as you go through your day.
7. Read, tell stories, sing songs, and say poems about numbers and counting with your child.
8. Play "shapes" and "sizes" games with your child. Use coins, cutout shapes, and other objects from around the house.
9. Have simple puzzles available for your child to play with. Make puzzles by cutting up greeting cards or the front of a cereal box into puzzle-shaped pieces.
10. Let your child use school tools such as pencils, washable markers, crayons and blunt-tipped scissors. Gather and organize these materials, along with some paper, in a box that your child can decorate and have access to.

When school starts, if you have a concern about your child's progress or development, speak with your child's teacher.



A Guide for Families

Kindergarten is an exciting year filled with new experiences. This guide will assist you in helping your child prepare for Kindergarten and throughout the school year. Enclosed are lists of the most important skills for students to gain by the end of their year in Kindergarten.



**Preston County
Schools**
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SELF-HELP SKILLS

- ◆ Eats independently.
- ◆ Uses restroom independently.
- ◆ Washes hands after using the restroom.
- ◆ Removes outerwear independently.
- ◆ Asks questions and seeks out adult help when necessary.
- ◆ Knows how to care for and use books.
- ◆ Cleans up after self.

SOCIAL/EMOTIONAL SKILLS

- ◆ Tries new things.
- ◆ Takes turns.
- ◆ Shares materials.
- ◆ Listens while others talk.
- ◆ Shows concern for others.
- ◆ Plays cooperatively with other children.
- ◆ Works well independently or in small groups.
- ◆ Separates from parent without undue anxiety.
- ◆ Knows parent or guardian's first and last names.
- ◆ Knows own first and last names and can tell an adult.

MATH SKILLS

- ◆ Identifies and writes numbers 0-9; counts to 100.
- ◆ Creates groups of up to 20 objects.
- ◆ Adds within 10 using objects, equations, explanations, or drawings.
- ◆ Compares numbers within 10.
- ◆ Places like items together—red cars and blue cars.
- ◆ Plays with, identifies, and names the shapes (e.g., circle, triangle, and rectangle).
- ◆ Uses comparative words (e.g., heavier, shorter, less, taller, bigger).

LANGUAGE AND LITERACY SKILLS

- ◆ Identifies parts of a book and print concepts (read from left to right and top to bottom, etc.)
- ◆ Listens attentively and responds to stories and informational text.
- ◆ Speaks in complete sentences to express feelings and ideas.
- ◆ Recognizes and produces rhyming words.
- ◆ Names the letters of the alphabet; identifies each letter's sound.
- ◆ Spells simple words based on the sounds letters make.
- ◆ Acquires and uses new words.
- ◆ Describes the relationship between pictures in a story and the words.

WRITING, SPEAKING, and LISTENING

- ◆ Prints first and last name; prints upper and lower-case letters.
- ◆ Writes opinion, informative, and narrative text.
- ◆ Participates in shared writing activities.
- ◆ Participates in collaborative conversations.
- ◆ Asks questions, seeks help, gets information to clarify.
- ◆ Describes familiar people, places, things, and events.

SMALL MOTOR SKILLS

- ◆ Holds writing instruments correctly.
- ◆ Holds scissors correctly.
- ◆ Uses scissors to cut straight or curved lines.
- ◆ Turns a single page in a book.
- ◆ Puts together simple puzzles.

