

Spartanburg County A Partnership in Early Childhood Best Practices for School Readiness 4 Year Old Observation Checklist

This checklist is intended for children 4 years old. Areas should be completed with the date as a child acquires each skill. If the child has already acquired a skill upon entering the classroom, check off the area. Update the checklist twice per year, October and May.

Child's Name: _____ **Birth Date:** _____

Teacher's Name(s): _____ **Dates Tested: 1** _____
 _____ **2** _____

Circle word/letter/number or check when skill is attained.

APPROACHES to LEARNING

- | | | |
|--|-------|-------|
| 1. Engages in play to show creativity. | _____ | _____ |
| 2. Shows curiosity and eagerness to learn. | _____ | _____ |
| 3. Focuses attention for short period of time, 10-20 minutes. | _____ | _____ |
| 4. Can plan and complete a task. | _____ | _____ |
| 5. Solves problems encountered in play and during interaction with others. | _____ | _____ |
| 6. Shows hand preference, which is _____left, _____right. | _____ | _____ |

SOCIAL and EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- | | | |
|--|-------|-------|
| 1. Shares materials and takes turns. | _____ | _____ |
| 2. Listens while others speak. | _____ | _____ |
| 3. Is polite and courteous to other children and adults. | _____ | _____ |
| 4. Helps classmates clean up when playtime is over. | _____ | _____ |
| 5. Can attend to bathroom needs by him/herself. | _____ | _____ |
| 6. Makes attempts to put on own coat, jacket, sweater. | _____ | _____ |
| 7. Separates from parents with ease. | _____ | _____ |
| 8. Seeks other children to play with. | _____ | _____ |
| 9. Can express anger in words rather than actions. | _____ | _____ |
| 10. Smiles, seems happy much of the time. | _____ | _____ |
| 11. Seeks help when needed. | _____ | _____ |

LANGUAGE and LITERACY

Early Literacy Development

- | | | |
|--|-------|-------|
| 1. Can identify colors—red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple, black, white, brown, gray, pink. | _____ | _____ |
| 2. Can identify matching sounds in words. | _____ | _____ |
| 3. Can recognize rhymes in familiar stories, chants or poems. | _____ | _____ |
| 4. Can recall words to familiar songs. | _____ | _____ |
| 5. Can differentiate between sounds that are the same and different. | _____ | _____ |
| 6. Can recognize when words share sounds and repeat the sound.
(e.g., /b/ as in Bob, ball, baby; /t/ as in Matt, kite, boat) | _____ | _____ |
| 7. Can identify own name in print. | _____ | _____ |
| 8. Can recognize and name those letters in first name. | _____ | _____ |
| 9. Recites the alphabet. | _____ | _____ |
| 10. Can recognize and name at least 10 lower case letters—
Test 1: a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z
Test 2: a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z | _____ | _____ |
| 11. Can recognize and name at least 10 capital letters—
Test 1: A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z
Test 2: A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z | _____ | _____ |

12. Can recognize that words are made up of letters (e.g., shown cat, will spell c-a-t). _____
13. Can recognize and “read” familiar words or environmental print (e.g., McDonald’s; STOP on a stop sign). _____
14. Engages in pretend reading using expression (e.g., *Brown Bear, Brown Bear*). _____
15. Can recognize the meaning of new words from the context of conversations pictures and objects. _____
16. Can name items in common categories (e.g., animals, food, clothing, transportation, etc.). _____
17. Can understand that print has meaning (e.g., orders from a menu in pretend play). _____
18. Can hold books right side up. _____
19. Knows that people read pages of a book from front to back, top to bottom, and words are read left to right. _____
20. Can begin to distinguish print from pictures. _____

Reading

1. Can use pictures and illustrations to understand a story (e.g., talks about picture when sharing a story in a book). _____
2. Can retell some information from an informational text that has been read aloud. _____
3. Can tell the topic of a selection that has been read aloud (answer, “What is the book about?”). _____
4. Can identify characters in favorite books and stories. _____
5. Can retell, re-enact or draw events from a story. _____
6. Begins to demonstrate an understanding of the differences between reality and fantasy (e.g., talking flowers and animals). _____
7. Can participate in shared reading of repetitious or predictable text. _____

Writing

1. Understands that what we say can be written down. _____
2. Uses pictures, letters, or dictation to tell a story. _____
3. Copies or prints own name, some letters and possibly words. _____
4. Begins to understand the purpose for writing, such as writing a grocery list, signing name or mailing a letter. _____
5. Scribble writes random familiar words with mock letters and random letters. _____

Oral Language

1. Speaks in complete sentences. _____
2. Speaks clearly. _____
3. Takes part in conversations with other children. _____
4. Expresses wants and needs clearly. _____
5. Dictates descriptions of drawings. _____
6. Follows one- and two-step directions. _____
7. States his/her own address. _____
8. States his/her own phone number. _____
9. States his/her own birthday. _____

MATH

Patterns and Relationships

1. Copies and extends a pattern. _____
2. Sorts objects by size, shape or color. _____
3. Orders two objects only (small, large; shorter, taller) _____

Number Concepts and Operations

1. Identifies numbers 1 – 20. _____
2. Counts by rote 1 - _____, 1- _____.
3. Demonstrates 1-to-1 correspondence to 10 when counting objects. _____
4. Writes numbers 1- _____, 1- _____.

5. Compares sets of no more than 5 using "greater than," "less than," or "equal to."

6. Joins and separates objects through four.

Geometry and Spatial Relations

1. Identifies circle, square, triangle, rectangle.

2. Describes circle, square, triangle, rectangle.

3. Understands positional words (i.e. up, down, in, over, under, behind, on top of, in front of)

4. Identifies all visible parts of the body and matches left and right body parts to clothing.

Measurement

1. Shows awareness that money is used to buy things

2. Compares the length of two objects.

3. Uses nonstandard units to measure to compare objects.

4. Associates time concepts with a clock.

Data Analysis and Probability

1. Organize and represent data with real objects (i.e. takes off one shoe and puts it in a line of shoes with laces or a line of shoes with no laces).

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT and HEALTH

1. Runs with control over speed and direction.

2. Jumps over obstacles, lands on two feet.

3. Takes at least 6 hops on one foot.

4. Gallops.

5. Climbs up and down climbing equipment with ease.

6. Moves body creatively to music.

7. Can skip using alternate feet.

8. Throws a ball in right direction.

9. Catches a ball with arms bent at elbows.

10. Runs up and kicks a soccer ball.

11. Handles scissors appropriately.

12. Holds pencil appropriately.

13. Can cut specific patterns.

14. Can paint and paste neatly.

15. Attempts to color within lines.

16. Completes tasks.

17. Shows appropriate attention span.

18. Can draw a person or other recognizable objects.

19. Can print own name.
