



Transitioning your child into kindergarten is an exciting—and sometimes worrisome—time for families. Your child’s first years in school can set the tone for future school years, so it is important to make sure each child is prepared socially, emotionally, intellectually and physically to enter kindergarten. It is a time of transition that should be a collaborative process between the community, school, teacher, child, and family.



About the GKIDS Readiness Check

Across the nation, many states are measuring students’ kindergarten readiness. In Georgia, the GKIDS Readiness Check has been developed as an approach to thoughtfully measure the entry-level readiness skills of kindergarteners.

The GKIDS Readiness Check will:

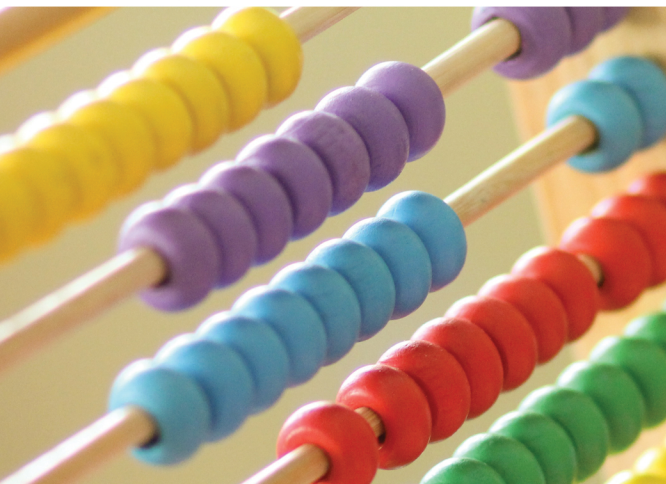
- ✓ Measure a child's knowledge and skills in three areas: Foundations of School Success, English Language Arts, and Mathematics
- ✓ Help teachers plan instruction
- ✓ Help families understand their child’s strengths and areas for growth

The GKIDS Readiness Check will NOT:

- ✓ Keep your child from entering kindergarten
- ✓ Identify your child as ready or not ready for kindergarten
- ✓ Determine if your child “passes” kindergarten

How will the GKIDS Readiness Check Impact my child?

- ✓ The GKIDS Readiness Check will take place during the first six weeks of kindergarten.
- ✓ Teachers may administer activities at any time during this window by observing and working with children as they engage in regular classroom learning and routines.
- ✓ Teachers will use the GKIDS Readiness Check to help understand and meet your child’s individual needs in all areas of development.
- ✓ With the GKIDS Readiness Check, teachers will have information to share with families to work together so children can thrive in kindergarten and beyond.



What resources are available for families?

- ✓ A parent resource website is currently in development and will be available Summer 2017. This site will provide additional information on the GKIDS Readiness Check and will include videos and resources on how to further guide and support your child at home.

Visit: gkidsreadinesscheck.gadoe.org

- ✓ For the latest updates on the GKIDS Readiness Check, follow GaDOE on social media:



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The GKIDS Readiness Check assesses the following skills that have been determined most essential for school readiness by Georgia educators:



Foundations of School Success



This includes students' approaches to learning, social and emotional development, and physical development and motor skills. These attributes and skills, while often viewed as non-academic, are leading indicators of students' progression towards future academic success. The GKIDS Readiness Check will assess your child's ability to:

- ✓ Engage in independent activities and continue tasks over a period of time
- ✓ Independently follow rules and routines
- ✓ Play cooperatively with a few peers for a sustained period of time
- ✓ Use senses to observe, classify, and learn about objects and environment
- ✓ Make statements and appropriately answer questions about how objects/materials can be used to solve problems
- ✓ Effectively use words, sentences, and actions to communicate needs, ideas, opinions, and preferences
- ✓ Perform fine-motor tasks that require small-muscle strength and control

English Language Arts



This includes children's early language and literacy development. These skills are foundational for fluent and effective communication and literacy skills such as reading and writing. The GKIDS Readiness Check will assess your child's ability to:

- ✓ Listen and differentiate between sounds that are the same and different
- ✓ Recognize and name some upper-case letters of the alphabet
- ✓ Recognize and name some lower-case letters of the alphabet
- ✓ Track words from left to right, top to bottom, and page to page
- ✓ Draw pictures and copy letters and/or numbers to communicate
- ✓ Listen to and follow multi-step directions
- ✓ Use spoken language that can be understood with ease
- ✓ Use writing tools

Mathematics



This includes an understanding of shapes and spatial relationships, problem solving, identifying similarities and differences, and basic numeracy concepts. The GKIDS Readiness Check will assess your child's ability to:

- ✓ Recite numbers up to 20 in sequence
- ✓ Count at least 10 objects using one-to-one correspondence
- ✓ Recognize numerals (0 – 9)
- ✓ Sort and classify objects using one or more attributes or relationships
- ✓ Recognize and name common two-dimensional shapes (circle, square, rectangle, triangle)