Start Strong in Kindergarten

The following skills in six key areas of learning and development are important as children prepare to enter Kindergarten. Which areas is your child strong in? Which might be growth areas to work on as your child begins his or her Kindergarten year?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language</th>
<th>Social Emotional</th>
<th>Cognitive</th>
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</table>
| □ Recognizes own name and names of familiar people and things  
□ Speaks in complete sentences  
□ Tells a story about a past experience  
□ Engages in conversations with others  
□ Uses words to express needs  
□ Understands and follows 2 step directions  
□ Listens when someone is talking | □ Puts his or her belongings away  
□ Uses materials appropriately (art materials, toys)  
□ Uses the bathroom and washes hands independently  
□ Asks an adult for help when needed  
□ Identifies emotions (happy, sad, mad)  
□ Shows concern for others  
□ Plays positively with 2-3 other children  
□ Takes turns with toys and on the playground  
□ Separates from parent/guardian and recovers quickly | □ Works cooperatively with a friend to play a game or complete a puzzle  
□ Sustains an activity for more than 5 minutes  
□ Tries different solutions to solve a problem  
□ Ask questions about something to learn new information  
□ Uses imagination and props to engage in pretend play  
□ Makes connections when reading a book |

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<tr>
<th>Physical</th>
<th>Literacy</th>
<th>Math</th>
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| □ Runs and walks  
□ Alternates feet on stairs  
□ Climbs playground equipment  
□ Jumps on two feet  
□ Throws and kicks a ball  
□ Cuts with scissors  
□ Pours liquids from one container to another  
□ Uses fork and spoon to eat  
□ Buttons/zips own clothing with support  
□ Opens and closes doors  
□ Holds a pencil, crayon or marker correctly | □ Recognizes that some words begin with the same sound  
□ Knows most letters in the alphabet  
□ Recognizes when two words rhyme  
□ Draws a picture and tells about it  
□ Recognizes and can write own first name  
□ Pretends to read a book (knows how to hold book and where to start reading)  
□ Pretends to read a familiar story using language similar to the text  
□ Asks and answers questions about a book  
□ Retells familiar stories | □ Recognizes numerals to 5 or 10  
□ Counts 5 to 10 objects  
□ Understands positional words (next to, under, on top of, over, between)  
□ Compares objects: smaller/larger, heavier/lighter, more/less  
□ Sorts objects by color, size, or shape  
□ Builds a tower or structure with blocks |

*The six key areas of learning and development are informed by the TS GOLD® Kindergarten Entry Assessment*