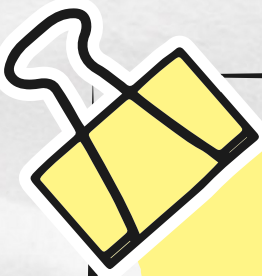


SCHOOL READINESS

Advice from other families about preparing your family for Kindergarten



Recently WEFN asked other families for advice to help families prepare to transition to Kindergarten. Here's some of their responses.

I had labels made for all their my children's' things with a specific icon and colours for each child (one had a rocket, a bear and a skateboard). We labeled everything so they could easily identify their items.

Get them used to getting dressed and going to the bathroom on their own. Kids struggle with taking pants off and on.

~ Wanda

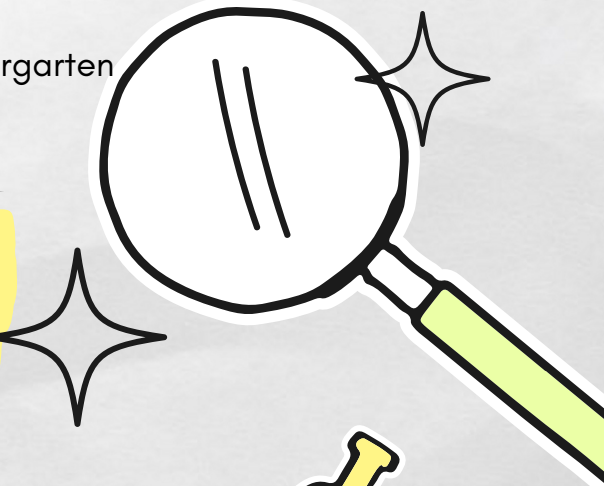
Cut a sticker in half to help them know what shoe goes on the left and the right foot.

Label Everything!!!!

~ Jennifer

Giving them snacks in the lunch dish they will be using and have them learn how to open and close it.

~ Mayra



Put hats and mitts in coat sleeves.

~ KT



Spending time working on sleep routines and consistency. Sleep affects everything!

~ Erica

Bring them to an Ontario Early Years Centre to practice socialization and early readiness skills (taking turns, waiting, sitting, circle time).

~ Tracy

If needed, ask for a school visit and classroom viewing before school starts.

~ Silvana



Practice opening containers for lunches and being able to change their shoes
~Alex

Practice putting on and taking off backpacks, shoes, jackets, dressing and undressing (in case of accidents), opening and closing lunch boxes, containers, water bottles, sweaters, etc. If a child can recognize their name it helps them identify their things (label everything!!!), if your child has never gone to daycare or been in social settings with other children regularly, visit EarlyON centers or other play groups if possible to get used to routines like circle time, snack time, free play time, and how to transition through each routine. Make every attempt to toilet train if possible. Be fully open and honest about your child's needs, struggles, strengths, and interests so the school can be as prepared as possible to support your child in every way they need.

Claudia



Spend time helping your child learn how to identify their belongings from the other kid's.
~Siobhan



- Ask for a couple tours before school starts.
- Bring child to school in the summer and practice drop offs.
- Walk around the school during summer or before school end of the school year.
- Label all belongings with your child's name.
- Provide a family picture for their cubby.
- Let them wear their backpacks during summer and have them practice, packing their water bottle and lunch bag.
- Practice makes progress!

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