



Dear Families and Caregivers,

Learning begins at birth! It is important that families feel supported and know how they can encourage children in learning throughout early childhood. We put this packet together in order to give you some information and guidance on how you can help children in learning and be prepared to succeed in kindergarten.

Our community has worked together to provide you with some valuable resources, including a skills list, that will give you ideas on how to support children to be prepared to be successful in kindergarten. Children's most valuable resources are their families or caregivers, and the time spent together reading, exploring, and having fun! ***While the skills listed are recommendations, it is not necessary for children to be able to do everything on the list to start kindergarten.***

This packet also contains a variety of information related to preparing children for success in kindergarten, what children will be learning in kindergarten, and fun things that you can do together to develop and support children's skills! Six guides from the Michigan Department of Education that highlight some questions parents may have when their children enter kindergarten are included. Additional guides can be found at http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-6530_6809-152726--,00.html.

We want to ensure that all children (& families and caregivers) are prepared to succeed in kindergarten. By working together we can make this a successful and enjoyable experience for everyone!

Sincerely,

*The School Readiness Advisory Committee
A workgroup of the Ingham Great Start Collaborative*