How do I prepare my child for kindergarten?
One of the most important basic skills your kindergarten child needs is book knowledge.

Read to your child every day- 15 minutes each day! There is so much research on the importance of reading aloud. Show that reading is FUN! Talk about the pictures, events, and favorite parts. Reading aloud will expose your child to new words, ideas, places, events, and more complex plots and sentences than beginning reading books have to offer. In other words, if your child is learning to read he/she can read those books. YOU, however, should be reading more difficult picture books to your child, such as the child's library books.

Point to the words as you are reading. This will help your child learn the first step in becoming a successful reader...tracking text!
Your child should be able to track text left to right, top to bottom & page by page.
Help your child write his/her name correctly!

- Teach your child how to write his/her name properly - using an upper case letter only at the beginning. The other letters should be lower case. Teach that letters start from the top down - be sure your child is forming letters correctly so that he/she does not develop bad habits.

  FOLLOW THE CHART BELOW. Children should write with a small golf pencil, not a fat preschool pencil.

- Click here for handwriting chart showing proper formation of each letter.
Help your child hold scissors and cut on curved & straight lines.

Click the picture to the right for a video on helping your child cut with scissors properly.
Helping your child understand the importance of social skills and listening skills is key to being successful in the classroom environment.

CLICK HERE for a lot of great ideas on these skills!
Colors

Your child should recognize the following colors:

- Red
- Orange
- Yellow
- Blue
- Green
- Purple
- Pink
- Brown
- Black
- White

Click on the crayons!
Basic 2-D Shapes

Your child should recognize the following basic 2-D shapes:

- Circle
- Square
- Triangle
- Rectangle
- Hexagon

Click on the rectangle.
There's an app for that!

Go to your App store for the following educational apps:

- Preschool and kindergarten learning games by Kevin Bradford
- Alphabet Aquarium Letters Reading Adventures by LLC
- A to Z music videos from ABC mouse
Educational Web-Sites

Click on the following links for educational web-sites and games:

- Starfall
- Funbrain
- Super Simple Learning
- StoryLine On-Line
Thank you for helping your child be prepared for kindergarten!

We look forward to a successful school year!

Polk School District