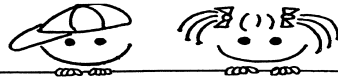




# Parenting Corner: *School Success*



IUSD Early Childhood Learning Center  
Early Start \* Head Start \* Montessori International \* School Readiness \* Special Education Preschool  
(949) 936-5870



## Tying Shoelaces the Sad Rabbit Way

Once there was a rabbit that was very sad because his ears were so long and narrow that he stepped on them all the time. One day a fairy landed on the bunny's head. She lifted up the bunny's ears and crossed them over like an X. Then she put one ear through the bottom of the X and pulled.

Next, she made each long ear into a loop and made another X like before. She put an ear under that X and pulled again. From then on the bunny remembered how to tie his ears into a bow, and he lived happily every after.



### Fast Facts

*Healthy children are more able to engage in the full range of life experiences that promote early learning.*



### The First Day

Author Unknown



I gave you a little wink and smile as you entered my room today  
For I know how hard it is to leave and know your child must stay  
You've been with him for five years now and have been a loving guide

But now, alas, the time has come to leave him at my side  
Just know that as you step away and the tears may flow  
I'll love him as I would my own and help him learn and grow  
For as a parent, I too know how quickly the years pass  
And that one day, soon, it will be my turn to take my child to class

So please put your mind at ease and cry those tears no more  
For I will love him and take him in when you leave him at my door

## Are You Earning Good Grades in All the Areas of Development?



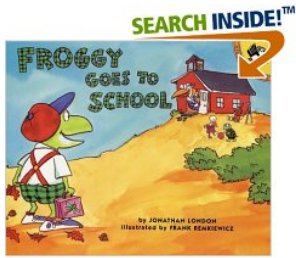
## Early Childhood Education/Child Development

There are different developmental domains of children which all relate to each other:

- ☺ **PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT:** the physical growth and the development of both gross motor (eg. walking) and fine motor (eg. finger movement) control of the body
- ☺ **PERCEPTION AND SENSORY DEVELOPMENT:** how children function using the senses, and the ability to process the information gained
- ☺ **COMMUNICATION AND LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT:** the use of visual and sound stimuli, especially in the acquisition of language, also in the exchange of thoughts and feelings
- ☺ **COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT:** how the individual thinks and reacts
- ☺ **EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT:** children's increasing awareness and their feelings and how they react to these feelings in a given situation
- ☺ **SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT:** the child's identity, their relationship with understanding their place within a social environment

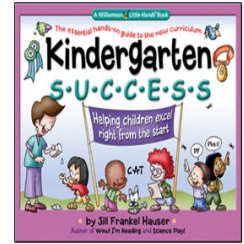


Recent studies on infant brain development show most of a person's neurons are formed from ages 0-5. If a young child doesn't receive sufficient nurturing, nutrition, parental/caregiver interaction, and stimulus during this crucial period, the child may be left with a developmental deficit that his or her success in kindergarten and beyond. Children must receive attention, affection, and respect from their caregivers to develop in a healthy manner.



**For You:** *Kindergarten SUCCESS* by Jill Hauser Hauser covers the full spectrum of standards to help teachers and parents cope. It is loaded with fun child-centered games and activities to prepare and support children through their critical first year of school, helping them gain confidence as they meet with learning success.

# Story Time



**For Your Child:** *Froggy Goes to School* by Jonathan London Get your children excited about Kindergarten and calm their nerves at the same time. Synopsis: Is Froggy nervous about the first day of school? Well, just a little. After a series of events, he is eager for all the challenges that await him in this comical, brightly illustrated tale of a daunting but rewarding first day at school.

## Kindergarten Readiness Checklist

### Fine Motor Skills

- Puts a 10-12 piece puzzle together
- Can use scissors to cut paper
- Holds a pencil or crayon comfortably

### Gross Motor Skills

- Runs, jumps, hops
- Can pedal a tricycle
- Walks up & down stairs

### Social Skills

- Uses words when angry
- Speaks clearly so an adult can understand
- Able to share & take turns
- Follows a simple 2-step direction
- Expresses feelings & needs
- Goes to the bathroom by self
- Asks many questions
- Enjoys being read to
- Understands & follows rules
- Able to re-tell a simple story in the right order

- Appropriately uses "Please" and "Thank you"
- Can spend periods of time away from mom & dad

### Academic Skills

- Knows colors, body parts & shapes
- Sorts items by color, shape & size
- Understands word concepts such as up, down, in, out, behind, on, under
- Demonstrates 1 to 1 correspondence when counting
- Can recognize & write name
- Knows how to handle a book

### Personal Information

- Knows full name & age
- Knows address &/or phone #
- Knows mom's & dad's first name

\*comprehensive screenings available through School Readiness Program

## Helpful Resources

[www.kidsdata.org](http://www.kidsdata.org)

[www.gettingready.org](http://www.gettingready.org)

[www.schoolsuccessinfo.org](http://www.schoolsuccessinfo.org)

[www.aecf.org](http://www.aecf.org)



For more information on the IUSD School Readiness Program visit:  
[www.iusd.k12.ca.us/curriculum/ece/EarlyChildEd.htm](http://www.iusd.k12.ca.us/curriculum/ece/EarlyChildEd.htm)

## A . C . T . I . V . I . T . I . E . S

- 🌀 Read aloud to your child every day.
- 🌀 Read rhymes to your child.
- 🌀 Ask your child to tell a story for you to write down. Read the story back to your child.
- 🌀 Sort everyday objects such as socks, spoons and paper into different categories (i.e. round).
- 🌀 Have your child help you count pennies or paper money.
- 🌀 Talk about time: "it's 11:30 – time for lunch" or "it's 7:30 – time for bed."
- 🌀 Ask your child to point out objects that are different shapes.
- 🌀 Plant flower or vegetable seeds with your child. Talk about and track changes over time.
- 🌀 Keep a calendar with your child. Talk about the holidays and their significance.

