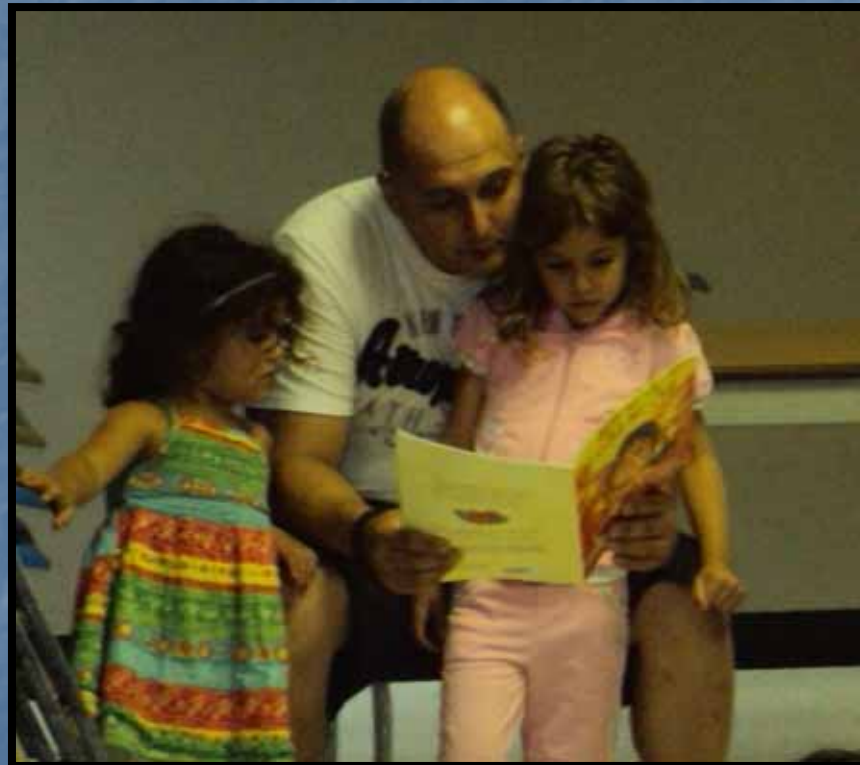


School Readiness

- What is it?
- ABC, 123, how to take turns - what's most important?
- What can I do to help my child?
- What am I already doing that is helping my child learn?

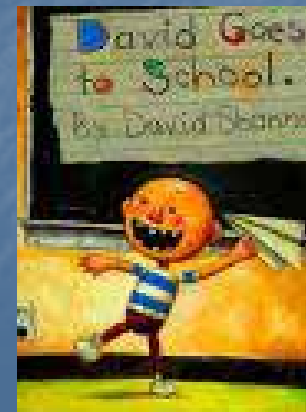


What Is School Readiness?



School Readiness

- Is a term that has been used to describe children's abilities and knowledge coming into kindergarten. Of course all children are ready to go to school, but some have more skills and experience than others to help them succeed.



What Kind of Skills?

- Large muscle – run, climb, hop, throw
- Small muscle – draw, cut, paint
- Social – share, take turns, wait, talk
- Emotional – care for others and self, talk about feelings
- Language – listen, tell a story, rhyme, know about letters
- Think – match, sort, problem-solve, plan



More Skills

- Separate easily from parent/caregiver
- Use the toilet
- Wash own hands
- Clean own nose
- Open lunch/snack containers
- Dress self
- Adapt to new people and places
- Look after own belongings



Photo: sunsetdaycare.ca



Photo:<http://haltonparents.wordpress.com/2010/11/01/toilet-learning-will-happen-when-it-happens/>



Photo:
http://1.bp.blogspot.com/_Q7EYggVhmNQ/TH9Yjst7pI/AAAAAAAAABSE/5Gbi-ijjA4U/s1600/DSC02932.JPG

ABC, 123, how to take turns - what's most important?

Learning letters,
numbers, shapes, etc.
is pretty easy.

Learning how to
separate from a
parent, take turns
and share, or what to
do if someone takes
your truck is very
complex!



Photo by Greg Khan

What Can I Do to Help My Child?

- Talk to your child about school
- Talk about your child's feelings and label them. It's okay to be nervous.
- Show him his new school and playground



Photo: York District School Board

What Can I Do to Help My Child?

- Play with your child! Play is the work of the child. This is how they learn best!
- Play grocery store shopping, play hide and seek, play "I Spy with My Little Eye", rhyme silly words, play with letters on the fridge, sing, read, go for walks, kick a ball!



Photo: ojifizz.com

What Can I Do to Help My Child?

- Encourage self-help skills, such as dressing, eating, toileting, setting the table
- Read books, including ones about going to school – *Miss Bindergarten Gets Ready for Kindergarten* (for more ideas see our list)



Photo: preschools4all.com

What Can I Do to Help My Child?

- Teach your child about traffic safety
- Allow your child to take some risks
- Give your child some chores and responsibility



What Can I Do to Help My Child?

- Allow her to make some choices, "Do you want to wear your blue shirt or your green shirt?"
- Visit the library, OEYC, parenting centres, museums, fairs, farms, the forest, a pond, watch construction sites
- Let your child help you cook or bake



Photo: mnllibrary.org

What Can I Do to Help My Child?

- Limit screen time, including TV, PSP, computers
- Avoid having TV or computer in child's bedroom
- Eat dinner together
- Play as a family!
- Keep a consistent bed time routine (You may have to adjust gradually at the end of the summer!)

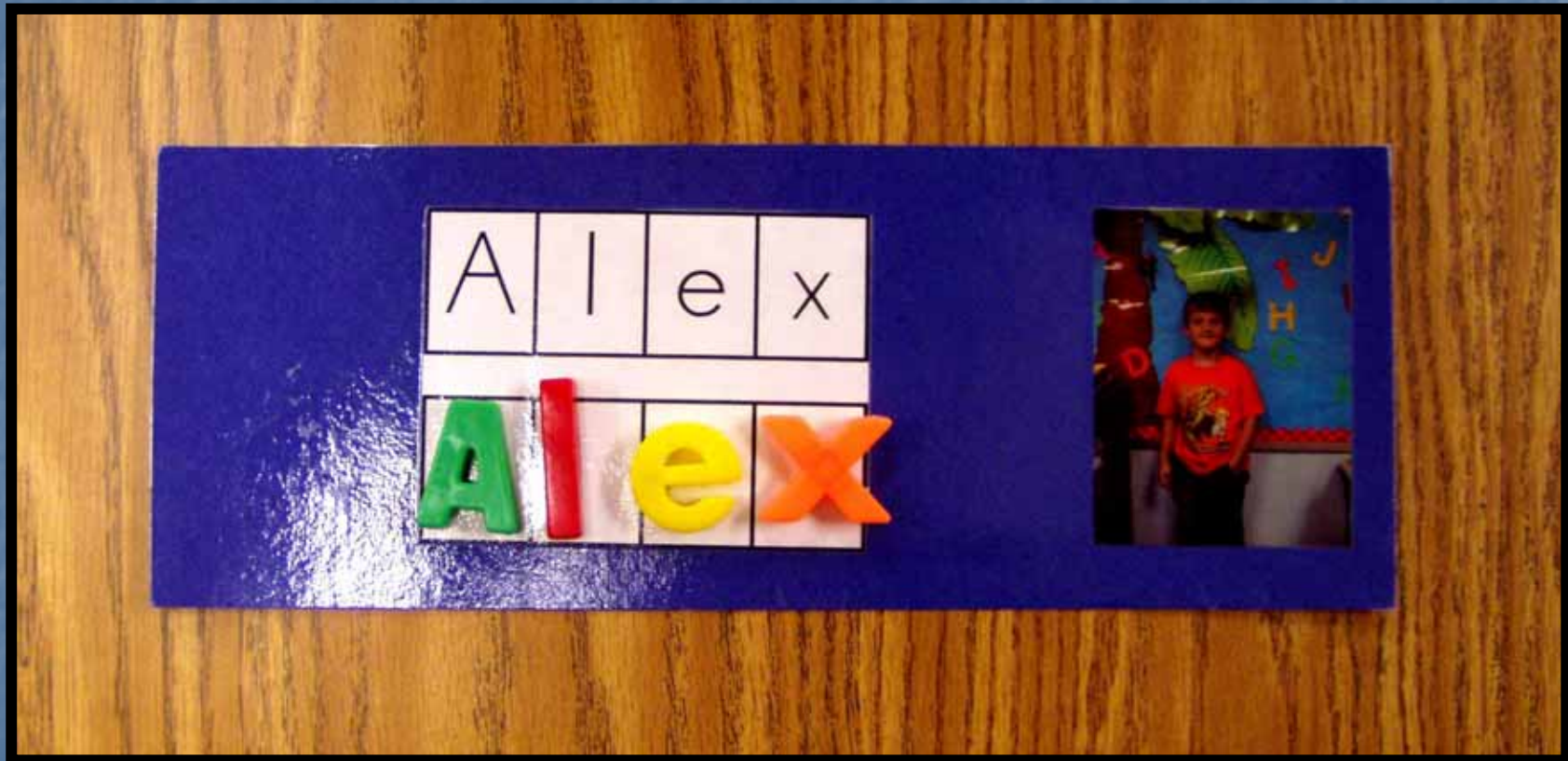


Photo: parents.com

When It's Time to Say Goodbye

- Make sure that the first time she goes to school is not the first time that she is separated from you – too hard on both of you!
- When you say good bye, be honest about what time you see each other again. Never sneak off. Your child may be sad, but he'll know to trust what you say.

Give Us Your Ideas



Resources and References

School Readiness Booklet for Parents and Caregivers

- http://www.beststart.org/resources/hlthy_chld_dev/pdf/school_readiness_english_fnl.pdf

The Ministry of Education's Planning Entry to School: A Resource Guide

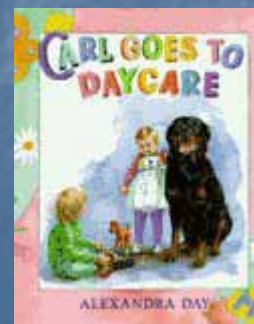
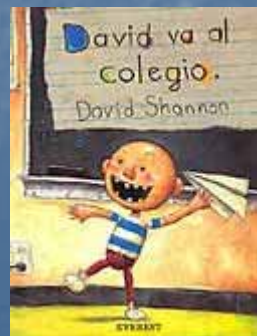
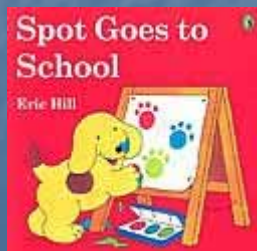
- <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/planningentry.html>

Our favourite tip sheet from the Toronto District School Board

- <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/a4.pdf>
- Dr. Stuart Shanker, Self-Regulation and Full-Day Kindergarten
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wJRtbcChy0Y&feature=fvwrel>

Read Our Tip Sheets!

- http://www.familydaycare.com/oeyccentres/els_tipsheets/school%20readiness.pdf
- http://www.familydaycare.com/oeyccentres/els_tipsheets/Transition%20to%20School%20Environment.pdf



Questions and Answers



Thank You!

- We will be emailing out a brief survey to collect your feedback about this presentation.
- This presentation and recording will be emailed to you.
- Paige Stirling Fox: pstirlingfox@familydaycare.com
- Terry Kelly: tkelly@familydaycare.com
- <http://www.familydaycare.com/oeyccentres/els.html>