Looking forward to kindergarten at ISD 318

At this time in your child’s preschool year, many parents are wondering if their child is ready for kindergarten. Here are some things you can do to help make the transition to kindergarten easier on your child.

Kindergarten teachers feel that social emotional readiness is equally as important for your child to be prepared for! You can help them get ready by doing things like letting them know that you expect them to put away their toys when they are done using them. Encourage them to persist in tasks when encountering a problem by giving him tasks slightly above his current ability level. When your child cannot find a solution on his own, encourage him to calmly ask for help. Set up play dates with children her own age to practice manners and sharing. This summer, set up a play date at the school playground that your child will go to!

A few academic ideas to do with your preschooler:
Verbally give your child specific one- step and two step directions and encourage him to follow through. If your child is having a hard time writing their name, use a highlighter to write their name and they can trace it (remember to use capital at the beginning and lower case for the remaining letters!). Practice counting to 20 while driving in the car. Give them time to draw with blank paper (not always coloring books). Let them cut with child appropriate scissors.

Help your child learn more about kindergarten
Wonderful books to read with your child about going to kindergarten:
Kindergarten Here I Come! by D.J. Steinberg
My Teacher by James Ransome
How Do Dinosaurs go to School? by Jane Yolen
Miss Bindergarten Gets Ready for Kindergarten by Joseph Slate

Children First! events are free. To learn more visit www.getlearning.org or call 218-327-5730.

Kindergarten Round Up is Tuesday, April 12th from 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm at the IRA Civic Center