Families are their children’s first teachers. Before kindergarten there are many things families can do to support their child’s transition to school. The year before a child begins Kindergarten is a great time to develop school readiness.

**THROUGHOUT THE YEAR...**

**Read**, sing, talk, listen and play with your child

**Ask** open-ended questions to your child

**Provide** opportunities to allow your child to solve problems

**Increase** your everyday “math talk” (counting, identify shapes, sorting, patterning) with your child

**Give** your child opportunities to play with other children

**Check out** your local Anne Arundel County Public Library for preschool story time

**Support** your child’s activities of daily living skills including toileting, handwashing, covering coughs & sneezes, putting on shoes, zipping up coats, opening lunch containers

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**Anne Arundel County Public Schools**
Office of Early Childhood Education
410.222.5441
www.aacps.org
FALL/WINTER

**Identify** your child’s school using the AACPS School Locator (www.aacps.org)

**Point out** the school to your child

**Familiarize** yourself with kindergarten readiness skills (see Ready at Five)

**Review** health requirements for kindergarten registration

**Schedule** the well-child doctor visit and update immunizations

**Gather** required registration documents for kindergarten

**Create** and keep consistent morning (e.g., Use the bathroom, get dressed, have breakfast) and evening routines (e.g., Take a bath, brush teeth, read a story)

www.readyatfive.org

SPRING

**Register** your child for kindergarten at your designated school

**Continue** providing opportunities to develop kindergarten readiness

**Check** with your school about potential events for families and children entering kindergarten

SUMMER

**Identify** important dates in the upcoming school year from the AACPS website school calendar *(conference days, school closure days, early dismissal days)*

**Visit** your school website to determine school supply needs

**Shop** with your child for school supplies and backpack to cultivate excitement about starting school

**Participate** in events prior to the school year such as Parent Orientation, Open House, PTA, School Social (as applicable to your individual school)

**Consider** driving to the school and playing at the playground

**Visit** the Anne Arundel County Public Library and check out books related to beginning school/kindergarten

**Continue** consistent morning and bedtime routines to support a successful transition to kindergarten