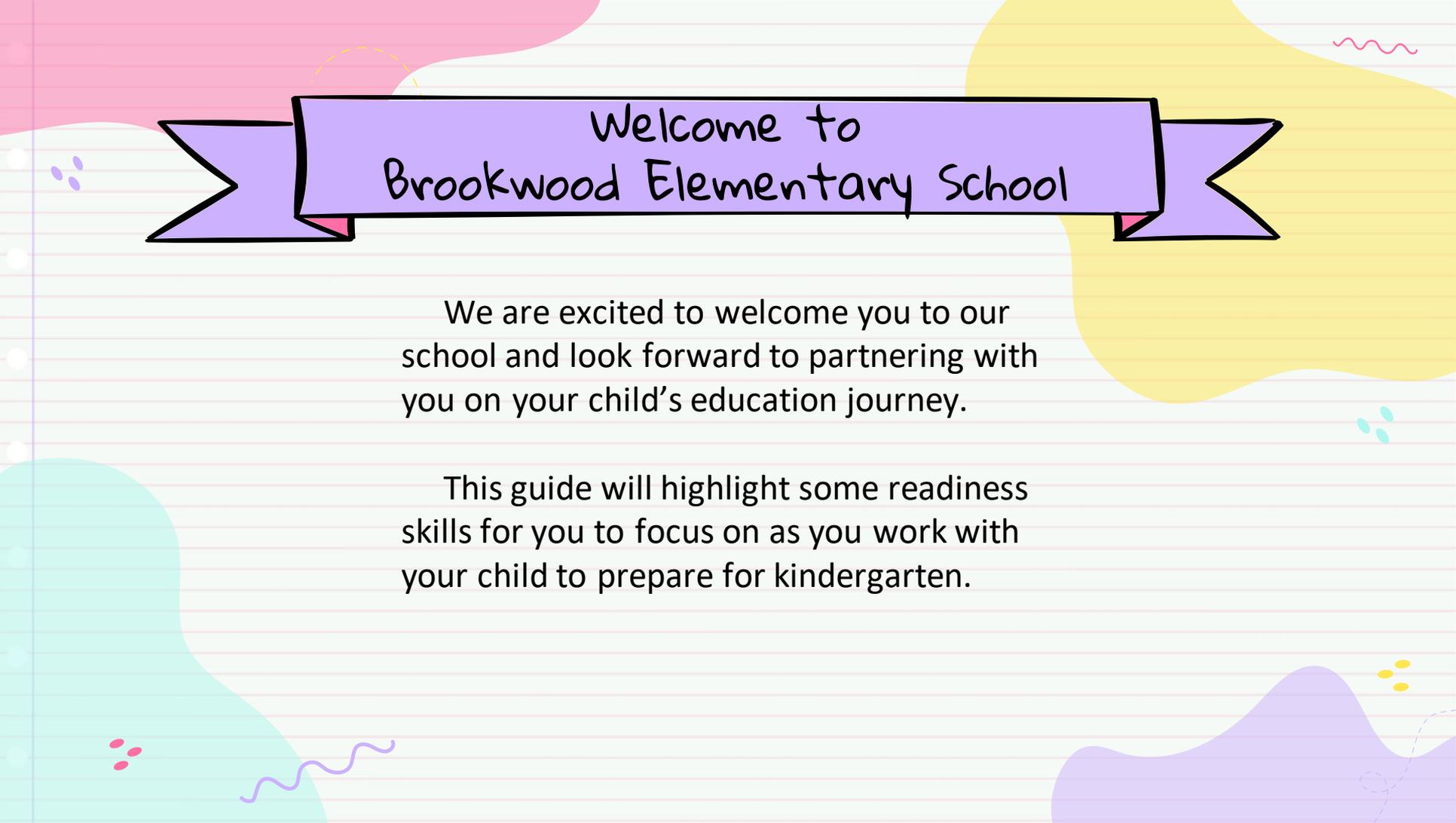




# Kindergarten Readiness Guide

Brookwood  
Elementary  
School



# Welcome to Brookwood Elementary School

We are excited to welcome you to our school and look forward to partnering with you on your child's education journey.

This guide will highlight some readiness skills for you to focus on as you work with your child to prepare for kindergarten.

The background features a light pink lined paper texture. It is decorated with various colorful elements: a yellow shape in the top left with purple and pink dots and a purple squiggle; a teal shape in the top right with a lightning bolt and purple dots; a purple shape in the bottom left with a starburst and yellow dots; and a pink shape in the bottom right with a yellow star and blue dots. A dashed pink line is also visible on the right side.

At Brookwood Elementary,  
we use our Head, Heart and  
P.A.W.S.

**P**- Practice responsibility

**A** - Act respectfully

**W** - Work together

**S** - Show love and kindness

# Writing Skills

Help your child practice writing letters.

Help your child practice writing his/her name.

Teach your child to write his/her name with an uppercase letter first and the remaining letters lowercase.

Write in shaving cream in the bathtub.

Write in salt or sugar in a cake pan.

Use finger paint to practice writing.

Make practicing writing fun!

## Letter Recognition Skills



What can you do?

- Don't drill them with flashcards.
- Instead, use the flashcards to play games such as alphabet "Go Fish".
- Encourage them to play with alphabet puzzles.
- Read alphabet books.
- Play "hide and seek" with refrigerator magnets.





# Beginning Sounds



How you  
can help:

- Make your child aware of the sounds each letter makes.
- Find items around the house that begin with the same sound and identify the letter that makes each sound.
- Overemphasize the first sound in words to help your child hear the individual sounds in words.



A



# Number Recognition and Counting

## Count throughout the day:

Count the crackers or grapes  
your child eats for snack or the  
socks you take out of the dryer.

## Point out numbers you see:

Have your child tell you  
the names of the numbers  
they see on street signs,  
building, boxes, clothing,  
and TV.

## Read (yes, read)

Read number and counting  
books to your child.

## Make it fun

Draw and paint over numbers  
with finger paint or Q-tips.

# Reading Readiness

## Concepts of Print

Run your finger under the words as you read to your child to help him/her learn that words go from left to right and top to bottom.

## Comprehension

After you read aloud with your child, talk about the story and encourage your child to think about what happened in the story.

## Rhyming

Play games with rhyming words to help your child hear similar sounds in words. For example, as you are going up the stairs, name one word that rhymes with "cat" for each step as you go up.

Paying attention and following directions are important in school.  
You can help us by:

- \*Reading lots of stories with your child
- \*Giving your child two- and three- step directions. For example, "Put on your pajamas, brush your teeth, and pick a book to read".
- \*Playing "Simon Says" with two- or three-step directions. For example, "Simon says jump up and down and shout hooray".





## Fine Motor Skills

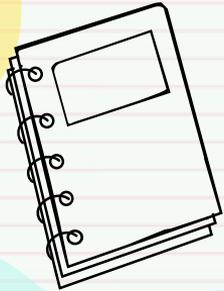
- Give your child several different writing tools (colored pencils, crayons, markers) to help keep him/her interested in writing and drawing.
- Play with play dough as a fun way to strengthen the muscles of the hand that will be used for writing.
- Encourage your child to add details to his/her drawings. Model good drawing and encourage your child to notice the finer details in people and objects.

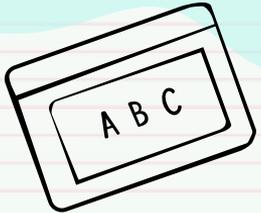


## Scissor Use



- ❖ Purchase a GOOD pair of child-safe scissors. Demonstrate proper scissor grip and let your child practice cutting.
- ❖ Give him/her old magazines or newspapers to cut, or allow him/her to make a collage of the things he/she likes by cutting them from magazines and gluing them onto a piece of paper.
- ❖ Cut play dough as a fun and safe way to learn how to properly cut things.





# Shapes and Colors

- If your child is having trouble recognizing certain colors, you might want to add a little food coloring to cookie dough, milk or vanilla pudding to emphasize those colors.
- Help your child recognize more difficult shapes, such as triangles and rectangles, by showing him/her how to draw them on paper and cut them out with scissors.
- Play games in which your child finds objects of particular colors and shapes around the house or in the neighborhood as you drive.



# Encouraging Independence



## Follow established rules and routines

Encourage your child to wash their hands before eating, put dirty clothes in the hamper, and brush their teeth before going to bed.



## Self-Care Skills

Ensure your child is independent with using the restroom, is able to dress and undress themselves, and can tie his/her shoes.



## Expectations

Kindergartners should be able to blow their noses, open most items in their lunches/snacks, use utensils properly, and sit at a table while eating.





# Personal Information and Social Skills



*Help your child learn his/her full name. This should be their **LEGAL** name and not a nickname.*

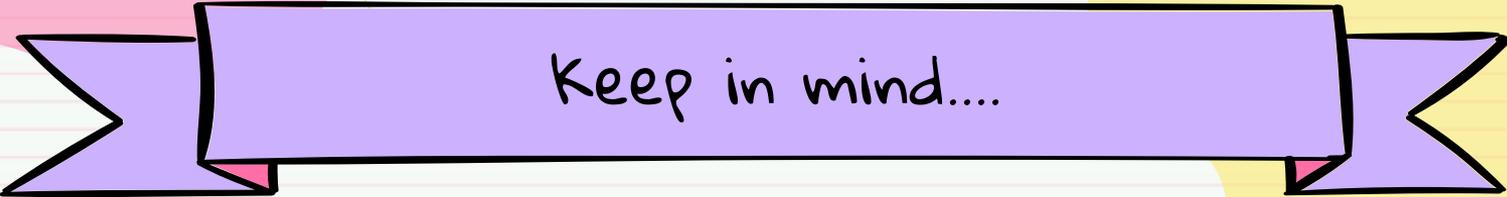
*Help your child learn his/her birthday.*

*Help your child learn his/her address and phone number.*

*Give your child opportunities to interact with other children.*

*Role-play different situations they might experience in school. Help your child find solutions to the typical problems they may encounter.*

*Teach your child how to use his/her words to express thoughts, feelings and needs*



## Keep in mind....

Chances are, you're already practicing many of these skills your child will need for kindergarten. Remember to keep it fun, and don't make it stressful for you or your child.

With just a little practice, your child will be prepared for their kindergarten debut!

\*If you need assistance with resources such as books, scissors, or other items, please reach out to the school.



Thank you  
for reading!



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