

In addition, here are some ideas for preparing your child for school from Trisha Hoppmann, a kindergarten teacher in Lincoln:

- Talk to your children; help build their vocabulary and spark their curiosity.
- Read books together, and make predictions about what might happen.
- Going into kindergarten, it helps if children are able to make choices and manage their time. To help with time management, ask your child to sit for an activity for a short amount of time and slowly increase that time.
- Encourage imaginative play, like play house, play store, activities such as making a tent over the table. (I remember this being a personal favorite, along with the incredible grocery store we had in the basement).
- Give your child a variety of experiences. Visit the library, museums, parks, zoos, skywalks, or the Sunken Gardens. Take part together in lessons like dance, gymnastics or music, and events such as concerts, faith activities, or sports.
- Instill a sense of "I am a reader" by showing your child signs he or she can already read. Environmental print is some of the first reading a child does. Most small children recognize McDonalds, Wal-Mart, Super Saver, Oreo (or a favorite cookie or food). Not only will they be reading, but also they can begin to recognize the M in McDonalds or the B in Barney or a family name.
- Colors can be introduced through daily conversation. Easy choices are very important for young children. Ask, "Do you want to wear your red shirt or your blue shirt today?"
- Encourage and guide children to solve disputes with peers or siblings.
- Encourage sharing, taking turns, keeping hands to self and using kind words.
- Probably what parents focus on most is academic skills. That's our job as teachers. If the children work all day at school, they don't need to work at home, too, but parents can find fun ways to "encourage" academic growth. That is, parents do not need to focus so much on academic skills but can give more attention to general character development and self-esteem.

LINCOLN CITY LIBRARIES

Lincoln, Nebraska • www.lincolnlibraries.org

Bennett Martin Public Library
136 South 14th Street • 441-8566

Reference Services • 441-8530

Youth Services • 441-8566

Loren Corey Eiseley Branch Library
1530 Superior Street • 441-4250

Charles H. Gere Branch Library
2400 South 56th Street • 441-8560

Victor E. Anderson Branch Library
3635 Touzalin Avenue • 441-8540

South Branch Library
2675 South Street • 441-8570

Arnold Heights Branch Library
3815 NW 54th Street • 441-8580

Bess Dodson Walt Branch Library
6701 South 14th Street • 441-4460

Bethany Branch Library
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I'm Going to Kindergarten!

Youth Booklist

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What better way to prepare for kindergarten than to sit down together with some books?

This list includes a selection of titles about kindergarten or the first day of school. The libraries add new titles every day, so be sure to check the online catalog for new titles under the subject of “Kindergarten” or “Kindergarten-Fiction.” All of the following titles are owned by Lincoln City Libraries; not all titles are available at all library branches.

GENERAL TITLES

jP Baer	Baer, Edith	This Is the Way We Go to School
jP Bloom	Bloom, Suzanne	The Bus for Us
jP Carlson	Carlson, Nancy L.	Look Out Kindergarten, Here I Come!
jP Flanagan	Flanagan, Alice K.	Learning Is Fun with Mrs. Perez
jP Jabar	Jabar, Cynthia	Alice Ann Gets Ready for School
jP Kirk	Kirk, David	Little Miss Spider at Sunny Patch School
jP Langreuter	Langreuter, Jutta	Little Bear Goes to Kindergarten
jP Lillegard	Lillegard, Dee	Hello School!: A Classroom Full of Poems
jP Mackall	Mackall, Dandi Daley	First Day
jP McGhee	McGhee, Alison	Countdown to Kindergarten
jP Middleton	Middleton, Charlotte	Enrico Starts School
jP Reynolds	Reynolds, Adrian	Pete and Polo’s Big School Adventure
jP Rockwell	Rockwell, Anne	Welcome to Kindergarten
jP Rogers	Rogers, Jacqueline	Kindergarten ABC
jP Rogers	Rogers, Jacqueline	Tiptoe into Kindergarten
jP Slate	Slate, Joseph	Miss Bindergarten Gets Ready for Kindergarten
jP Strete	Strete, Craig	The Rattlesnake Who Went to School
jP Sturges	Sturges, Philemon	I Love School!
jP Wells	Wells, Rosemary	My Kindergarten
jP Wells (Viking ed.)	Wells, Rosemary	Timothy Goes to School

RELUCTANCE TO GO TO SCHOOL

jP Carlson	Carlson, Nancy L.	Henry’s Show and Tell
jP Child	Child, Lauren	Am Too Absolutely Small for School
jP Danneberg	Danneberg, Julie	First Day Jitters
jP Flood	Flood, Bo	I’ll Go to School If---
jP Meredith	Meredith, Carol	Jamie Anderson Wouldn’t---
jP Penn	Penn, Audrey	The Kissing Hand

jP Rosenberry	Rosenberry, Vera	Vera’s First Day of School
jP Rouillard	Rouillard, Wendy	Barnaby Goes to School
jP Ruhmann	Ruhmann, Karl	Who Will Go to School Today?
jP Rusackas	Rusackas, Francesca	I Love You All Day Long
jP Schwartz	Schwartz, Amy	Bea and Mr. Jones
jF Wells	Wells, Rosemary	Mama, Don’t Go!

DISTINCTIVE PLACES AND PEOPLE

j371.911 McM	McMahon, Patricia	Listen for the Bus: David’s Story Because David is blind, he listens for the bus. This book is also available in a Braille edition.
jP Keller	Keller, Holly	Harry and Tuck Harry and Tuck are twins who are a little worried about being separated for school.
jP Leonard	Leonard, Marie	Tibili, the Little Boy Who Didn’t Want to Go to School Tibili is an African boy who would rather do many interesting things instead of going to school!
jP Recorvits	Recorvits, Helen	My Name is Yoon When Yoon begins school, she doesn’t want to use her Korean name, until she makes a special friend.
jP Stuve-Bodeen	Stuve-Bodeen, Stephanie, 1965-	Elizabeth’s School Elizabeth’s first day of school is in Tanzania, but has much in common with the first day of school in other places.
jP Uegaki	Uegaki, Chieri	Suki’s Kimono Suki’s sisters are pretty sure that her kimono isn’t the best thing to wear for the first day of school, but her choice works out well.

GETTING READY FOR KINDERGARTEN

The “Get Set for Kindergarten” series by Rosemary Wells includes these titles. They have many items that will help your child be ready for kindergarten.

jP Wells	Wells, Rosemary	Adding It Up
jP Wells	Wells, Rosemary	Discover and Explore
jP Wells	Wells, Rosemary	How Many?
jP Wells	Wells, Rosemary	Letters and Sounds
jP Wells	Wells, Rosemary	Ready to Read
jP Wells	Wells, Rosemary	The World Around Us

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