INTRODUCTION TO SCHOOL READINESS

KDLA LIBRARY LINK-UP:
SCHOOL READY LIBRARIES SPECIAL EDITION

IMLS Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Sponsored Training
Webinar Overview

- Project Goal of LB21 Award
- What does “school readiness” mean?
- Kentucky’s Early Childhood Standards
- How Libraries fit as School Ready Partners
- Overview of Modules
- Questions
Purpose of Study

Commissioned by the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives and funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services with the cooperation and collaboration of the University of Kentucky to create a project to improve the school readiness knowledge and skills of public library staff.
KDLA’s Project Goal

- To improve the school readiness knowledge and skills of public library staff.
- Internalize and improve awareness
- Emphasis placed on:
  - children receiving in-home care only
  - children with disabilities
Project Impact

- Transform practice
- Build greater skills & abilities in staff
- Contribute to results that will benefit diverse constituencies
- Adoption & Replication
Project Design

- 8 F-2-F Trainings - Completed, December 2015!

- 3 Asynchronous Online Modules – In Progress

- 8 Library Link-up Webinars – In Progress

- Finale: School Ready Kits & School Ready Library Designation/Strategic Planning

Dieffenbach & King-Oaks, KDLA
90% workshop will bring changes to job performance

This training is exactly what I needed. We are doing the right things in our storytime, but I am like many in the room who understand on a "Mother Level" rather from an educational perspective. It is so important to me to add this knowledge richness to our Storytimes. The parents are looking for this kind of information too. I am thankful to have been able to take part in the training.

I strongly believe every person working with children and supervising those working with children needs to have this training. It has changed the way I do my job in such a positive way.
Dimension of School Readiness

- Ready Children
- Ready Schools
- Ready Family and Community
- Approaches to Learning
School Readiness in Kentucky

School readiness means that each child enters school ready to engage in and benefit from early learning experiences that best promote the child's success and ability to be Ready to Grow, Ready to Learn & Ready to Succeed.

- Sorts and classifies objects
- Is learning to identify basic colors
- Is learning to recognize name and general shapes
- Counts up to 30
- Counts sets of objects up to 10

- Eats a balanced diet
- Gets plenty of rest
- Receives immunizations
- Receives regular medical and dental care
- Runs, jumps and does other activities

General Knowledge and Mathematics

What does School Readiness mean?

- Child is curious
- Has the ability to focus and listen
- Continues in tasks that are challenging
- Child plays in groups or pairs based on interest
- Child initiates learning experiences

Health and Physical Well-Being

- Knows full name
- Is learning to write own name
- Uses pictures to tell stories
- Is learning home address
- Speaks in five or six word sentences

Social and Emotional Development

- Is learning to play and share with others
- Follows simple rules and routines
- Shows curiosity
- Is learning to explore new things
- Is learning to work alone

Approaches to Learning

Language and Communication Development

The skills listed in the diagram above are helpful for children to know before entering Kindergarten. The indicators included represent the hopes and aspirations for incoming students, not the expectations. Kentucky recognizes that children develop and learn at different rates and times. Not every child will master all of the skills and behaviors listed above prior to Kindergarten. These skills and behaviors are NOT USED to determine school eligibility. In Kentucky, all children who meet the legal age requirement are entitled to enter public school.

Families, early care and education providers, schools and community partners must work together to provide developmental experiences that promote growth and learning, to ensure that all children enter school eager and excited to learn. The purpose of this definition is to give parents, child care and preschool, and communities an overview of the expectations of schools for incoming students and to help families and communities prepare children for school. In addition, a readiness profile provides teachers, child care providers, and parents a tool to better inform them on the specific strengths and needs of each individual child.
Kentucky’s Early Childhood Standards

Birth to Three
- creative expression
- cognition
- communication
- motor development
- social-emotional development

Three and Four
- arts and humanities
- English/language arts (early literacy)
- health education (health/mental wellness)
- mathematics
- science
- physical education (gross and fine motor skills)
- social studies
School readiness means a student entering school is ready to engage in and benefit from early learning experiences that best promote the student’s success.

Screener should align with the definition of school readiness and the standards established in Building a Strong Foundation for School Success: Kentucky's Early Childhood Standards

Should assess the domains of adaptive, cognitive, communication, motor, and social emotional
## Kindergarten Readiness by Group (2015-16 results)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Number Tested</th>
<th>Kindergarten Ready</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Students</td>
<td>46,789</td>
<td>50.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>3,362</td>
<td>27.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limited English Proficiency</td>
<td>2,788</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free/Reduced Price Meals</td>
<td>29,840</td>
<td>39.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students with Disabilities</td>
<td>6,076</td>
<td>31.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Kindergarten Readiness by Prior Setting (2015-16 results)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Setting</th>
<th>Number Tested</th>
<th>Kindergarten Ready</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State funded Preschool</td>
<td>16,559</td>
<td>48.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head Start</td>
<td>6,603</td>
<td>45.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Care</td>
<td>10,673</td>
<td>70.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home</td>
<td>12,618</td>
<td>36.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>6,076</td>
<td>31.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>1,947</td>
<td>41.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Module Development

Gathering Data to help inform the content of modules

- 2013 survey -- only 22% of Kentucky public libraries reported having a children’s program that focused on school readiness.

- Observations of Story Time

- Other Possibilities include:
  - Surveys
  - Interviews
  - Informal feedback
Early Childhood Module Series

- **Module 1 - Cognitive and General Knowledge Development (Spring 2016)**
  - Cognitive development, science, math, social studies

- **Module 2 – Health and Physical Well-being and Social Emotional Development (Fall 2016)**
  - Motor development, physical development, health education and mental wellness

- **Module 3 – Language and Communication Development (Winter 2017)**
  - Communication and language arts
Approaches to Learning – Incorporated throughout Modules

Children have different styles of learning and different interests and attitudes toward learning.

- Initiative
- Curiosity
- Engagement
- Persistence
- Reasoning
- Problem Solving
Outcome and Evaluation

Outcomes for successful completion of the School Ready Library Modules include the following for staff:

- Increased understanding of school readiness domains
- Increased understanding of how these domains can be supported through library services and spaces
- Demonstration of knowledge, skills, attitudes, and behavior.

**DATA will be collected through::**

- Pre and Post tests included in each module
- Interviews and surveys
- Self-assessment forms
- Informal Observations
Questions or Concerns

For more information on School Readiness in Kentucky, visit:
http://kidsnow.ky.gov/Pages/default.aspx
Thank you for attending today’s webinar!

Contact us!

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Thank you to IMLS!

This project was made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) grant number RE-06-15-0077-15, under federal funding to the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives. The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation’s 123,000 libraries and 35,000 museums. Our mission is to inspire libraries and museums to advance innovation, lifelong learning, and cultural and civic engagement. Our grant making, policy development, and research help libraries and museums deliver valuable services that make it possible for communities and individuals to thrive. To learn more, visit www.imls.gov and follow IMLS on Facebook and Twitter.
Thank you for attending today’s webinar!

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