

nickelodeon™ **Dora's**  
**Beyond**  
**the BACKPACK™**

**National**  
**PTA®**

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# Beyond the Backpack

“Beyond the Backpack,” named after Dora’s most important accessory, is a multi-year, multi-platform program that champions overall school readiness for preschoolers as they prepare for their first big school adventure.

The initiative focuses on real competencies like social skills and emotional intelligence, early literacy and math skills, in-school involvement and resources like school supplies, and health and wellness basics.

“Beyond the Backpack” provides parents and educators with tools and resources that can help kids prepare for a well-rounded, positive school experience.

For more information visit:  
[www.beyondthebackpack.com](http://www.beyondthebackpack.com)

## Kindergarten Readiness Checklist

My child can:



### Language

- 1. Recognize and name at least 10 letters in the alphabet, and knows some letter sounds (e.g. B is “buh”).
- 2. Look at pictures of objects and tell me which two represent words that rhyme.
- 3. “Write” letters, words, or stories by drawing or scribbling to express ideas.
- 4. Speak in complete sentences and make up or retell stories.



### Social & Emotional

- 5. Talk about basic feelings such as anger, sadness, and happiness.
- 6. Cooperate, share, and take turns with others.
- 7. Follow 3-to-4-step directions and focus on a task independently for 15 minutes.



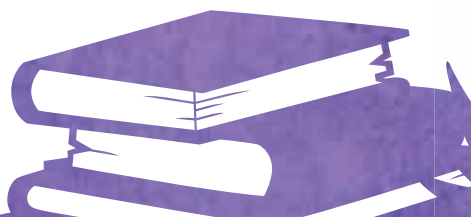
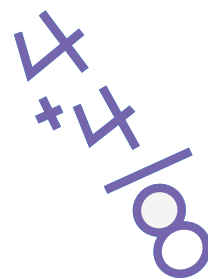
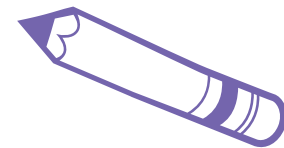
### Math

- 8. Count out loud from 1 to 10 in order and recognize a few 1-digit numbers by sight.
- 9. Recognize basic shapes, like circle, square, and triangle, and sort objects by shape, size, and/or color.
- 10. Compare two objects using words like less, more, smaller, bigger, etc.
- 11. Tell me what comes next in a simple pattern, like red button, blue button, red button, blue button, red button, \_\_\_\_\_.



### Physical Wellness

- 12. Engage in physical activities such as jumping, running, hopping on one foot, throwing, and kicking a ball.
- 13. Use a pencil properly, cut with safety scissors, and put together simple puzzles of 4 to 9 pieces.
- 14. Complete the following tasks independently: going to the bathroom, getting dressed, brushing teeth, and washing hands.



# Activity!

Will you help **Dora** find everything she needs to put in her **Backpack** for school?

