

# Saline/Ellsworth County School Readiness Program

Kindergarten readiness begins at birth.



## Early screening gives young children a strong start in life.

Our program works with early childhood settings to ensure that developmental and behavioral issues are identified and addressed early—including language, movement, thinking, behavior, and emotions.

Your child's earliest experiences affect brain development and lay the foundation for future success. Between 0-5 years of age, a child's brain completes at least 90% of its growth. The most important experiences are provided by parenting and home environment. Child care, can also influence development.

Saline/Ellsworth County School Readiness Program works to improve the quality of child care settings by:

- providing professional development events to early childhood teachers
- coaching to improve teacher child interactions
- using assessment data to individualize learning
- giving incentives to early childhood professionals for achieving certifications and degrees

Contact the CAPS office at  
785-825-4493 for further assistance.



## Kindergarten readiness begins at birth. Give your child a strong start.

One of the best activities is reading! Reading everyday helps children learn about new ideas and activities. Reading to your child will influence how successful your child is in school.

**Talk to your child.** Parents who talk as they go about their daily activities expose their child to 1000-2000 words every hour. School success can be attributed to the amount of talk a child hears from birth to age three. Talk about the sights, sounds and smells found in everyday places and activities.

**Raise an eager learner.** Encourage your child to explore and discover their world. Answer their questions. Support curiosity. Let lessons unfold naturally as you sort socks by color or size.

**Develop routines.** Choose regular times for your child to eat, play and sleep each day.

**Play with your child.** A TV cannot laugh with your child. A computer does not smile at your child. It is the sound of your voice—not just any voice—that will help your child feel love and affection that they need to grow and develop.

**Read aloud every day,** from birth, for at least 15 MINUTES and light up your child's brain.

**The American Academy of Pediatrics** recommends no TV for children under 2.



A PROGRAM OF CHILD ADVOCACY & PARENTING SERVICES, INC.

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For more information, call 785-825-4493 or visit [capssofsalina.org](http://capssofsalina.org).

