

W a s h i n g t o n  
**WaKIDS**  
**Kindergarten Inventory of Developing Skills**

## About WaKIDS: What Early Learning Professionals Can Expect

The Washington Kindergarten Inventory of Developing Skills (WaKIDS) is designed to support smooth transitions for children from early learning environments (home, child care, Head Start, ECEAP, private preschool) into kindergarten. As an early learning professional, you know a lot about the children you have cared for and taught. Early learning professionals are a key part of WaKIDS.

WaKIDS was piloted in 115 classrooms around the state during the 2010-2011 school year and will be in nearly 500 classrooms in 2011-12. WaKIDS will be optional for state-funded full-day kindergarten programs this school year and mandatory for these schools beginning 2012-2013. Other schools may choose to participate.

What early learning professionals within WaKIDS school districts can expect from WaKIDS:

### Collaboration

You will be able to share valuable information about the children you've cared for and taught, such as:

- Physical development, well-being, health and motor skills: for example, can the child run smoothly, fold paper with some help, and use a fork and spoon.
- Social and emotional development: for example, does the child give social support to others and follow rules in different settings.
- Cognition and general knowledge: for example, can the child identify characteristics for comparison, such as size and color, and understand the concept of same and different.
- Language, communication and literacy: for example, can the child point to the title of a book when asked, and does the child know that print conveys meaning.

Teachers will be meeting with early learning professionals in their community to share ideas and information. During the 2011-2012 school year, school districts and early learning professionals will help shape this part of WaKIDS. Some districts around the state already have strong early learning and K12 partnerships.

If you are interested in helping shape the early learning collaboration part of WaKIDS, please email [WaKIDS@k12.wa.us](mailto:WaKIDS@k12.wa.us). We look forward to receiving your input.



### Need more information?

Please visit WaKIDS at [www.k12.wa.us/WaKIDS](http://www.k12.wa.us/WaKIDS) or email [WaKIDS@k12.wa.us](mailto:WaKIDS@k12.wa.us).