



Collaborative for Colchester's Children

HEALTHY, HAPPY & SUCCESSFUL CHILDREN

Ready to Learn When Entering Kindergarten

Who are we?

C3 is a group of *community partners* that developed a plan to benefit Colchester children from birth through age 8 and their families. Beginning in 2008, we have focused on four strategy areas that will ensure that our youngest citizens are healthy, happy, and successful children.

What does *Ready to Learn* mean?

Ready to Learn means that children possess the skills, knowledge, and attitudes necessary for success in school and for later learning and life. (Head Start definition)

What prepares children for school?

- ◇ Safe, nurturing, and enriching early experiences
- ◇ High quality early childhood programs
- ◇ Parents succeeding in their role as the child's first teacher
- ◇ Development of strong socio-emotional skills

What are we doing?

- ◇ Partnering with our local childcare providers to continually strive to ensure that our local programs provide our children with the socio-emotional and pre-academic skills necessary for success in kindergarten.
- ◇ Hosting Play and Learn groups that provide opportunities for early literacy and math skill development as well as socialization.
- ◇ Community education for providers and parents on how to develop strong, self-regulation and emotional management skills in ourselves and in our children.
- ◇ Empower families with necessary supports and resources.

How are we doing?

- ◇ The graphs at right show our progress on three indicators related to children entering school Ready to Learn. Our children are coming into kindergarten better prepared than 5 years ago.

