

## Kindergarten September Part 1

### Kindergarten is a golden age

**Growing Up** contains information that will help you understand and encourage your child in his adjustment to his first school experience.

"Kindergartner" will be his or her name. Your child may be five, or nearing six, but the basic characteristics of five-ness last all year. These basic characteristics provide for him the foothold for the emerging wiggly, indecisive first-grader.

Kindergarten is a golden age for your child and for you. Kindergartners have come a long distance in the upward journey of development. Now they can take a long rest stop during which they, and you, can enjoy this feeling of "I am what I am."

What is a child like at this stage of the journey?

He is a computer! Up to now he has been developing his program, refining the operation of his various systems as he looks, touches, listens, moves, talks, sings, and, most importantly, becomes aware of his own emotions as well as the emotions of those around him. This "refining of operations" puts the finishing touches on his internal programs so that his computer will be compatible with the systems that will be thrust upon him in school and in life.

And you thought all these years he was just playing. He has really been learning, thinking, and storing information. About 80 percent of all of our total learning done during our lifetime is done by the time we reach school age.

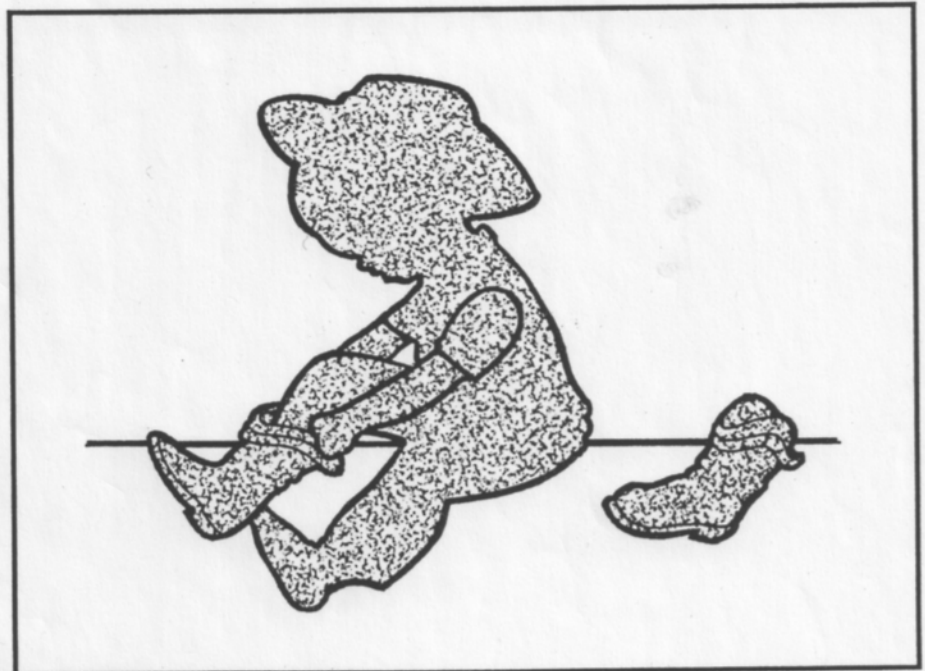
A kindergartner is a peek into the future man or woman. The person your child will be is showing right now in terms of:

- Temperament.
- Favored manner of learning something new.
- Capacity for new learning, whether it be "slow and sure" or "quick and easy."
- Talents.
- Immediate reaction to stress and disappointment.
- Coping strategies.

Your kindergartner deserves the right to continue his upward journey of development with no more than the customary challenges.

Therefore, you, as parents, have now been given the rank of OBSERVER OF BEHAVIOR, FIRST CLASS. Remember, as observers you will look and listen in terms of "what, when, and how." Only then can you detect "why."

Enjoy your new and privileged rank.



*"The price of greatness is responsibility."  
—Winston Churchill*