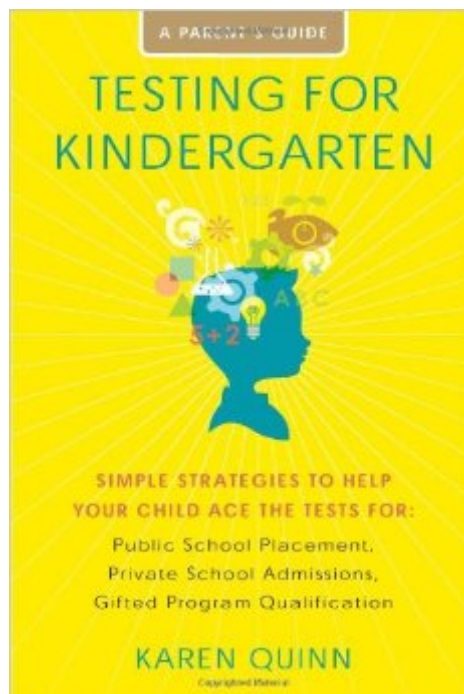


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# Testing For Kindergarten: Simple Strategies To Help Your Child Ace The Tests For: Public School Placement, Private School Admissions, Gifted Program Qualification



## Synopsis

Karen Quinn has successfully taught hundreds of parents how to prepare their children for testing, and this is her ultimate, comprehensive guide to having fun while teaching to the underlying abilities every test assesses. Whether your child is going to a private kindergarten or a public school, he or she will most likely be tested and placed in classrooms according to those results. But information about intelligence tests is closely guarded, and it can be difficult to understand what your kids need to know. As an expert who has successfully taught hundreds of parents how to work with their own children, Karen Quinn has written the ultimate guide to preparing your child for kindergarten testing. The activities she suggests are not about "teaching to the test." They are about having fun while teaching to the underlying abilities every test assesses. From the "right" way to have a conversation to natural ways to bring out your child's inner math geek, Quinn shares the techniques that every parent can do with their kids to give them the best chance to succeed in school and beyond. It's just good parenting and better test scores are icing on the cake.>

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This is not one of but THE book to read if you have small children and are preparing them to take one of the IQ tests out there for entrance into kindergarten. Although the title of this book is "Testing for Kindergarten," it actually teaches a parent the building blocks for a great relationship with one's child, which is the foundation for learning. I wish I had this book to read when I was pregnant with my son five years ago; alongside all the pregnancy books I read, I think all the tips and advice in

Testing for Kindergarten would have added to the excitement of bringing a child into this world and of being a parent, and taking the role of being my child's first teacher seriously and earnestly. As a mom, you spend a lot of time with your child, often not knowing what to do, what games to play or what to talk to them about. When my son was a baby, I wasn't thinking about the day when he will be given an IQ test, but the day is soon approaching. While I greatly recommend this book to any mom or dad that is about to have children, I actually only got it a month ago, and I can truly say it has changed my approach to rearing my son (and daughter). I want to have fun with them, I want to teach them, because what the author does (Karen Quinn) is show you that learning can be incorporated in everyday activities that you do with your child. So now if I am walking with my son I talk to him, I point things out, I ask him questions. Maybe I did all that before, but having read Testing for Kindergarten, I am doing things in an informed way that will benefit my child academically and in life. I can't say enough of this book. There is much much more in the book than what I wrote about here. She gives so much information about the tests themselves (OLSAT, Bracken, Wechsler, Stanford-Binet, and Tag programs, and others) that is so hard to find anywhere else. I feel so lucky to have found this book and strongly recommend it.

When I bought this book, I expected it to be a more focused book on testing in general, its drawbacks and benefits and also more comprehensive in suggested approaches on how to tackle testing (besides the general "read to your child every day and ask how and why questions"). Also, from reviews I read about the book, I thought the book would take a more analytical approach to testing and support its premises with recent research on the topic. Instead, much of the information doesn't appear to be well supported with research and appears to be an opinion of an author, who is not even an educator! The book is a how-to book and filled with basic, common sense exercises and tricks we already do with our daughter anyway. The book offers a very elementary approach on how to tackle reading, learning to read and develop math and spatial skill, etc. in your child. There is some good advice in the book but most information in the book is a filler so I wouldn't recommend the book to my friends. If you want a more comprehensive thorough book on reading, read the classic *The Uses of Enchantment* by Bettelheim. For math and spatial skills, I would recommend *Teaching Elementary Math in Russia*, which is a great resource for parents and teachers alike. For testing, there are plenty of online resources that explain on what to expect.

I have been an educator for over 25 years, have raised a child of my own, three others and am now a grandmother. Children who have the activity, conversation and mental stimulation to teach them

the fundamental skills for thinking, reasoning, problem solving and many others, are simply better prepared to excel in school. Children who excel in school have higher self-esteem and tend to have fewer difficulties overall. Clearly, the content and intent of this book is to build the underlying skills needed to learn and succeed in school. Perhaps it is the name of the book that led another reviewer to pan the book. Clearly, one could not have read the book and written a review accusing its author of training children to a test. It does anything but that. My grandchild, age 3, fully enjoyed the activities and conversations the author suggested. In fact, the first time I finally had to insist on a dinner break. Why would you not want to give your child a firm foundation on which to learn and succeed in school? Why would you not want to ensure that when they are placed on a track (make no mistake - they are placed on a track from day one) that it is one that will lead to a great education where they are challenged rather than taught to the lowest common denominator? As class sizes increase and resources shrink, parents and families will have to take on more responsibility for teaching their children and preparing them to compete in a global society where competition is even greater for good jobs and opportunities which will be in even shorter supply. This book may be a gift of foresight for many.

As a mom of a young preschooler in Los Angeles, where the competition for the best public programs is fierce, I had been feeling helpless and intimidated about how to navigate the system and make sure my son gets the best opportunities. Then this book crossed my radar. I found it pitch-perfect in terms of demystifying the process, giving me plenty of very specific info in a conversational, easy-to-absorb format. I also applaud the humor and sense of balance - we all think our kids are special and daydream about what they'll achieve someday, but we don't want to push them too hard and rob them of the joys of just being a kid. I found it really reassuring that I'm already doing plenty right - and empowering to know what I can be doing in the months ahead to keep the ball rolling. I highly recommend it.

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