



How can I Help my Child Feel Good About his or her Education?

If your child feels good about his or her schoolwork, the chances for your child to succeed in school increase.

Find reasons to praise your child every day.

- Every child has strengths. Help your child focus on what he or she can do well.
- Let your child know that you think he or she is a valuable, capable person and you know he or she can succeed.

Have high expectations for your child's learning and behavior, both at home and at school.

- When you expect the best from your child, your child will rise to your expectations.
- Help your child take responsibility for his or her choices.
- Teach your child how to set and achieve goals.
- Be a good role model for getting work done before play.

Teachable Moments.

Let's Read: A fun learning activity for children ages 5-7.

What You Need: Books your child can read.

What to Do: Read with your child. Take turns reading pages, or read for different characters in a story. Read with expression and enthusiasm. Make reading fun!



Make Everyday Activities Learning Experiences

Turn daily activities into opportunities for learning. Here are some ideas:

- **Cook together.** Have your child read recipes and measure ingredients.
- **Do laundry.** Have your child sort items of clothing according to color, read washing instructions, measure detergent, and time wash cycles.
- **Go grocery shopping.** Have your child write shopping lists, compare food prices, make change, and identify and classify food items.
- **Fix the family photo album.** Have your child sort pictures, write labels for each photo, and write a story about some of the photos.
- **Organize the house.** Have your child sort items in a "unk drawer," label them, and arrange them alphabetically.

For more information:

Alabama Career and Technical Education at:
<http://www.alcareertech.org>

Free Application For Federal Student Aid:
<http://www.FAFSA.gov>

Visit the parent section of the *No Child Left Behind* website at: <http://www.ed.gov/parents/landing.jhtml>

Order the free publication: *Helping Your Child Succeed in School* by calling toll-free 1-877-433-7827.

Alabama Career Information Network System (ACINS) at:
<http://www.alcareerinfo.org>



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America's Career Resource Network

Helping *your* Child Succeed in *School*

A Parent's Guide to Elementary School Success





What can I Do at Home to Help my Child Succeed in School?

Remember that you are your child's first teacher. The more involved you are in your child's education, the more likely your child is to be successful. So even if you are a busy parent, keep in mind that there are simple ways you can help your child succeed in school.

At Home You Can:

Spend time with your child.

- Ask your child about his or her day.
- If you have multiple children, try to spend one-on-one time with each child.
- Use car time to talk with, and listen to, your child.
- Take walks or ride bikes together.
- Look for things to do as a family.
- Once a week, have a "movie" night or a "game" night.
- Eat dinner together. Use this time to talk about the day's events.

Help your child develop routines.

- Have regular homework or reading time.
- Make sure your child has a regular bedtime that allows for plenty of rest.
- Give your child age-appropriate chores. For ideas, see: <http://www.parent.net/parents/article/archive/chores.shtml>
- Make sure your child has a nutritious breakfast before school.

Teach your child to love to read.

- Read to your child from an early age.
- Let your child see you read.
- Listen to your child read.
- Limit TV viewing and video games.
- Take your child to the library to check out books of interest to him or her.
- Provide your child with books and magazines written at his or her reading level.

Create a study environment in your home.

- Do not allow the TV to be on while your child is doing homework.
- Make a "study area" that has paper, pencils, pens, erasers, a dictionary, and other materials your child uses to do schoolwork.
- Stay nearby when your child is doing homework, in case your help is needed.
- Check your child's homework when finished.

If school is
important to you,
 it will be **important**
 to your **child**.



How can I Work with the School to Help my Child Succeed?

Make sure your child is getting the best education possible by working directly with your child's school and teacher.

With School You Can:

Talk with your child's teacher.

- Introduce yourself at the beginning of the school year.
- Attend parent-teacher conferences.
- If possible, arrange a time to observe the teaching in your child's classroom.
- If you use email, find out if your child's teacher uses email to communicate with parents.
- Send the teacher a thank you note when you notice your child has learned a new skill.

Talk with your child about his or her schoolwork.

- Ask about homework and check to see that your child has done all the work assigned.
- Ask your child to show you his or her schoolwork and note the grades and comments made by the teacher.
- Ask to see papers sent home by the school.
- Discuss how the skills your child is learning in school are an important part of everyday life. Let your child see you reading, writing, and using math.