

# Helping Your Child Succeed in School

## On the first day:

1. Make sure your child has all the required supplies.
2. Tell your child how long he or she will be at school, what the plan is for picking him or her up afterward, and that you are coming back.
3. Say goodbye and leave quickly when it is time to go, even if your child is crying. Drawing out this process usually makes the transition harder for everyone.
4. Do not sneak away without saying goodbye. This can make it difficult for your child to feel safe, to view school positively, and to trust you in the future.
5. At the end of the day, ask about all the fun your child had at school. Encourage him or her to keep trying even if school was challenging at first.

## During the school year:

1. Go to parent-teacher conferences. This is the best way to know how your child is doing at school, to get to know the teacher, and to voice your concerns and questions as well as your appreciation.
2. If your child's teacher contacts you, respond as soon as possible.
3. Check your child's schoolbag for notes from the teacher. The child may forget to give these to you.
4. Create a time and space for doing homework. Help your child when needed, but do not do the work for him or her.
5. Speak respectfully and positively in front of your child about his or her teacher and about school in general.
6. Advocate for your child if he or she needs extra help, but always do so respectfully. Trust that the teacher cares about your child and has the training and experience to help him or her.

