

Your child's education depends on you!

Children really benefit when parents take an active role in their education. A parent's involvement can help children.

- ◆ Enjoy learning and school life more
- ◆ Improve their skills and attitudes – and do better at school
- ◆ Develop confidence in themselves
- ◆ Be better prepared for the future.

You'll feel good about yourself, too, knowing that you're helping your child get the most out of school.

Get to know your child's teachers, school counselor and principal. They're your partners in your child's education.

Attend open houses and other school events. They're your chance to get to know teachers and other parents in a relaxed atmosphere. Be sure to attend parent-teacher conferences.

Stay in touch

With teachers, counselors and administrators throughout the school year. For example, you can:

- ◆ Write notes or talk on the telephone
- ◆ Meet with them in person.

Ask them for suggestions about how you can help your child at home.

Get involved in school activities.

Volunteer in the classroom, library, cafeteria or gymnasium. Help with holiday parties, dances, field trips, etc.

Contact the
Parent Coordinator

Attend school functions

such as sports programs. In addition, you could go to school board meetings or take part in school advisory committees and parent organizations.

Encourage learning at home. Your child will get more out of studying if you:

Set aside a quiet time and place for studying. Turn off all TV's and radios. Set up a desk or table, and make sure there's good lighting. Provide supplies (paper, pencils, etc.) and reference books (dictionary, atlas, etc.).

- ◆ **Set clear rules** about homework and study time. Plan for breaks and phone calls. Provide clear consistent guidance.
- ◆ **Read together** every day – try books, magazines and newspapers. Discuss what you read. Get your child a library card and visit the library often.
- ◆ **Review homework together** and help your child prepare for school the next day.

Be a positive influence.

- ◆ **Encourage** your child. Praise efforts (not just results), and boost your child's self-esteem. Avoid making statements such as, "you're not very good at math".
- ◆ **Talk about school** in a positive way. For example, talk about teachers and courses you liked. Ask your child about school often. Make sure he or she goes to school each day.
- ◆ **Teach by example** and be a good role model. Show you value learning by reading books, magazines, newspapers, etc. and being curious about new things.
- ◆ **Express your love** – let your child know that you love him or her. Avoid comparing your child to others, especially brothers and sisters. Value your child as a unique person.

Transition from Head Start to Next Educational Placement

