

What Parents Need to Know and Do

KNOW	DO
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to read to their child • Required immunizations for Kindergarten • What is taught in Kindergarten (curriculum) • Importance of their role as parents in school and at home • How to be their child's first teacher • How to help their child learn English • How to get involved • How to partner with their child's teacher • Elementary school structure • How to read a school report card • Number of students in kindergarten class (staff, child-to-teacher ratio) • Teacher's education level • Statistics/information about test performance scores/drop-out rates of local high school • Resources (parenting classes, advisory board, volunteer opportunities, regional centers, food banks) • Expectations (kindergarten standards and teacher's expectations) • Community (needs, policies and procedures of schools/agencies, demographics/population) • Developmental milestones for children • Services provided by agencies/schools (meal program, home visits, adult education, parent classes, tutoring, special needs) • Local schools • Parent rights and responsibilities in their child's education • How to transition a child to a school environment • How to start the day on a positive note • How to spend quality time with child in/out of classroom (read and play with child) • School readiness program's mission • How to advocate for child • School enrollment process and procedure • How to prevent bullying • School calendar • English language learner (ELL) testing • School choice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share stories at home and read to child • Access health care • Learn with child • Get involved. Participate in school activities and volunteer at school. • Communicate with school staff regularly. Ask questions ("what are you teaching my child?" or about scholarships) • Visit agencies and elementary schools • Play games, sing and dance with children • Meet with child's teacher and review child's academic progress • Visit classrooms • Participate in orientations and trainings (i.e. education, self-improvement workshops) • Advocate for child in the ELL redesignation process • Collaborate: Create relationships with educators (build relationships with local elementary, junior and high school) and other parents • Be a teacher at home • Assist with child's homework • Be accountable • Attend community events (i.e. health fairs, learning fairs, etc.) • Network at school events for families • Influence school policy • Research before and after-school programs • Get children excited for school/encourage children in their social and academic journey • Identify child's needs and establish boundaries • Provide resources at home (i.e. books, educational materials, etc.) • Promote nutrition • Get enough sleep • Commit to having a positive attitude • Visit elementary school and meet key people (principal, teacher) • Get Kindergarten enrollment packet • Enroll in ESL classes • View websites like greatschool.net • Understand the separation process between child and parent • Get bus routes • Register children for school on time