

Helpful Hints

The old question, "What did you learn in school today?" might lead your child to respond with "Nothing!" or "Play." But by asking about his or her school day activities, you are telling your child that school is important. You are also reminding your child that you are a partner in his or her education.

Try asking more specific questions like:

- "What did you talk about in math? Science? Social studies?" etc.
- "What do you have to do for homework tonight?"

It would be helpful too, if you could:

- visit your child's school periodically and, whenever possible, meet with the teacher or principal to assess progress
- join the Parent Teacher Association or Parents Association
- encourage reading for pleasure
- involve your child in "real life experiences such as: cooking, shopping, charting height and weight, and walks in the park, so that he or she can use what was learned in math, science, art, etc.
- read books, magazines, newspapers with or to your child
- pick out a "study corner" at home for doing homework or preparing for any tests
- review and discuss homework with your child
- encourage your child to ask you questions and share with you experiences and concerns
- go on family outings to the park, museums, libraries, and places of interest in and around New York City or your neighborhood

Remember: Your involvement in your child's school and school experiences helps to improve school attendance, grades, and social behavior.