

How can parents show that they value learning?

- ☐ Be certain your child sees you writing and reading.
- ☐ Provide a conversation time — perhaps at meals — where the family can practice polite listening and taking turns.
- ☐ Make up stories, songs, and games with your children.
- ☐ Show you are really listening, giving your child your full attention.
- ☐ Practice reading, math, and writing skills with your child in your daily routine: cooking, shopping, building, or doing other daily work.
- ☐ Have library cards and take trips to the library.
- ☐ Ask school and community librarians for recommended reading lists.
- ☐ Borrow literature about education and child development from teachers.

What do children need?

Children need TIME to work.

- ☐ Establish a regular family study (quiet) time.
- ☐ Schedule a regular time for "learning activities."

Children need SPACE to work.

- ☐ Provide a quiet (no TV!), comfortable, well-lighted place for studying.
- ☐ Have different kinds of paper, pencils, markers, paints, scissors, glue, and other basic supplies accessible.

Children need SUPPORT.

- ☐ Develop responsibility and independence at home.
- ☐ Boost self-image by providing positive reinforcement and encouraging your child.
- ☐ Be aware of the school schedule and ask questions pertinent to your child's day.
- ☐ Communicate regularly with your child's teachers.
- ☐ Know the school's homework policy.



- ☐ Find out the teachers' expectations — for example, are you expected to check homework?
- ☐ Keep track of routine assignments: weekly spelling, independent reading, journal writing, memorization of basic facts...
- ☐ Expect feedback from teachers about homework.

Children need RECOGNITION for their work.

- ☐ Display your child's work.
- ☐ Praise your child's work in front of friends and relatives.
- ☐ Make it a point to compliment some portion of your child's work and to recognize even a small improvement.
- ☐ Treasure your child's work by saving samples every year.