

What can I do at home to be involved in the educational process?

Meaningful learning requires personal commitment and partnerships. The most important contributor outside the school is parents or guardians; their participation and interest are crucial to students' motivation and success.

Parents and guardians set a very important example. Work with your child. Support and praise your child. Talk often with your child's teacher. Your involvement will strengthen your child's achievement in school.

You can help by:

- praising your child's early and on-going attempts to write and spell and to encourage them to greater literacy as they grow older
- reading to and with your child
- taking time to discuss school experiences with your child
- providing a variety of reading, writing and artistic materials at home
- taking your child to the library, the museum, and cultural events
- modeling good reading and writing habits
- pointing out spelling patterns and unusual word features
- encouraging a homework routine and providing a quiet location
- modeling the value of attendance, punctuality, and perseverance
- celebrating success by praising your child for his/her accomplishments
- asking your child's teacher(s) for ways you can help
- stressing the importance and relevance of literacy and mathematics in everyday life and as paths to many careers. (For example, take your child shopping and compare prices, open a bank account, read and prepare a recipe, write a record of a trip which includes a journal and estimating times and distances)
- giving more responsibility as your child matures
- above all, give your child the most important form of support - your time