

How Can I Help My Child At Home?

Kindergarten

- Read books together and talk about the pictures
- While reading to your child, take time to ask questions and listen to the answers
- Play rhyming word games
- Make an alphabet book with your child
- Point out words and shapes on signs, cereal boxes, magazines and other items in daily life
- Count and sort objects
- Talk about why we have rules at home and at school

1st Grade

- Read to and with your child, stopping often to talk about what you have read
- Play word games like blending sounds to make a word and replacing a letter to make a new word
- Encourage your child to write often (letters, notes, lists and stories)
- Involve your child in budget planning, shopping and measurement activities
- Provide your child with an allowance and let him/her plan how to spend it
- Play games that improve number sense, such as dominos
- Contact your child's teacher about concerns
- Talk to your child about why we celebrate holidays

2nd Grade

- Ask your child to re-read a paragraph or page to build fluency
- Help your child learn the correct spelling of words
- Help your child use a dictionary
- Ask questions about what your child has read or have your child ask questions
- Practice addition and subtraction facts up to 20 and multiplying 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 times 10
- Help your child measure items around the house
- Encourage your child to write often
- Find where you live on a map

3rd Grade

- Help your child learn the correct spelling of words
- Help your child use a dictionary and thesaurus
- Read often with your child and stop while reading to discuss what your child has read
- Give your child opportunities to estimate items in the house—candy in a jar, socks in a drawer, etc.
- Give your child opportunities to measure items at home—the length of the table, the height of a chair, the weight of a box, etc.
- Review basic addition, subtraction, multiplication and division facts
- Have your child create mathematics problems and then work together to solve them
- Provide writing opportunities for your child
- Talk to your child about why people vote in elections

4th & 5th Grade

- Ask your child about their day by asking him/ her to share at least one thing learned
- Read a variety of text with your child, both stories and informational text
- Review vocabulary words, spelling words and mathematics facts
- Provide your child with opportunities to write
- After your child completes mathematics homework, ask him/her to explain how he/she solved the problems

Middle and High School (6th through 12th Grade)

- Require your child to read something that interests them for 30 minutes each day
- Have your child read aloud to you or to a sibling
- Be sure your child has at least 8 uninterrupted hours of sleep at night
- Involve your child in activities that involve measurement, such as cooking and building
- Provide a place and a time for your child to study every day that is away from noise and distractions
- Be sure your child comes to school and arrives on time; try to avoid checking your child out before the school day is over
- Ask about your child's homework and tests
- Log into your child's ALMA account to view current information regarding your child's attendance, grades, assignments, projects, discipline, and more via the Internet

Parent Self-Assessment

Academics

- I require my child to complete homework assignments.
- I encourage reading at home.
- My child has a consistent time and place to do homework.
- I ask to see my child's schoolwork.
- I talk to my child about schoolwork.
- I attend workshops to help my child at home.
- I check backpacks every day.

Behavior

- I limit TV, video time and non-academic computer time.
- I expect my child to be respectful, work hard, and be responsible.
- I read the Student Handbook with my child to be aware of expectations.
- I enforce school behavioral expectations.

Attitude

- I stress the importance of education and doing well in school.
- I believe my child will do well in school.
- I help my child set and achieve educational goals.
- Our family celebrates academic accomplishments.

Building Responsibility

- My child has a nutritious breakfast each morning.
- My child has a regular routine that includes chores, homework, family time, and bedtime.
- My child accepts responsibility for his/her actions.
- My child attends school and is on time every day.

School/Home Connections

- I update address & phone numbers with the school office.
- I communicate regularly with my child's teacher.
- I respond promptly to requests for information.
- I attend teacher conferences or other meetings to help my child succeed.
- I attend open houses, science fairs, musical events, class trips, sporting events, and other school activities.
- I volunteer in the school when possible.
- I read everything that comes home from school and respond when relevant.
- I attend school events in which my child participates.