

Teachers can't do everything needed to help children learn. Neither can parents. But together the school-family team can help children succeed in school. Schools welcome parents as partners, so get involved. Parents are children's first and most influential teachers. Did you know that by the time children graduate from high school they will have spent just 15% of their waking, learning hours in school?

How your child spends the other 85% of the time can have a big impact on school success. The more you get involved, the more likely your child is to succeed.

Being part of the school-family team doesn't just mean volunteering at school, although schools welcome that. It also means being a role model of good behavior, supporting school rules and the classroom teacher, reinforcing learning and reminding your child that education is important.

Best of all, you don't have to be trained as a teacher to be effective! Just showing your child that you have a positive attitude about school and that you and the teachers are part of a team that works together to help your child learn makes a big difference.

## Here's How You Can Become Part of the School-Family Team



- Get to know your child's teachers. Visit the classroom. Attend "Back to School Night" and other parent meetings.
- Tell the teacher about anything that may affect your child's progress in school: the birth of a new baby, family challenges or a special health concern.
- Read the newsletters, notes and messages that you receive from the school. Discuss the school rules with your child.
- Don't wait for a regular parent-teacher conference if your child is struggling. Contact the teacher right away.

- Look at the school papers and books that your child brings home each day. Monitor your child's assignments.
- Join the parent-teacher organization. Volunteer to help with at least one activity during the school year.

You and your child's teachers help your child learn. Together you make a winning team.

