10 Ways to Prepare Your Child for Kindergarten

- 1. Read **books** everyday.
- 2. Develop fine motor skills: holding a pencil, coloring, cutting with scissors.
- 3. Print first name with only the first letter capitalized.
- 4. Learn to follow 2-step instructions: "Please go get your shoes and then put them on."
- 5. Use good manners: "Please" and "Thank you"
- 6. Talk about social skills: sharing, taking furns, positive words, talk about handling anger.
- 7. Help your child take **responsibility**: clean up messes, dress themselves, get their own snacks.
- 8. Practice number recognition: Count objects daily.
- 9. Practice letter and sound recognition: Practice saying the letters and their sounds every day.
- 10. Build self-esteem. Praise your child often because Kindergarten is hard!



How Parental Involvement Helps Our Kids

There are many benefits to our kids when parents are involved. What are the gains? Well, for the kids we usually see achieve more, regardless of ethnic or racial background, socioeconomic status, or parents' education level. The kids also tend to achieve **better grades**, test scores, and attendance.

How about the daily routine? Well, that is a plus too. Children are more consistent with **completing their homework**. If they have practiced, they do better on retaining concepts and perform better on assessments.

Children also have emotional gains. They have **better self-esteem**, are more **self-disciplined**, and **show higher aspirations and motivation toward school**, which is awesome!

Finally, kids have more **positive attitude about school** often results in **improved behavior in school**. Cutting down on behavior resolution means increased time on task and that everyone wins!