



## Tips for Parents: Visiting Your Child's Class

*Visiting your child at school, whether to help with regular classroom activities, or to chaperone on field trips, is a great way to show your support. Plus, you'll learn things you would probably miss if your only insight into the classroom is from your child's perspective and what you learn at Parent Teacher Conferences:*

- The ways they interact with teachers and classmates--do they seem to be fitting in well?
- What they are studying
- Areas they might be struggling in
- The effectiveness of the teacher's methods with your student
- The general feel of the classroom--Is it set up to get kids excited about learning? Is the teacher helpful? Are the kids behaved so that everyone can concentrate?

Parents often underestimate the importance of visiting their child at school. With busy work schedules and the hectic pace of life, it can be tough to find the time, but a little participation can give kids the big message that you believe school and their education is important.

Here are a few suggestions for ways to get involved if you're limited on time:

- Participate in reading time once or twice a month
- Eat lunch with your child and drop by the class to see how things are going before you head back to work
- Volunteer to help with a field trip
- Come to Career Day and share what you do with the class
- Help with a class party
- If you're an artist, scientist, chef, writer or have another talent you can share, offer to lead a related activity once a month.
- Be your child's Show and Tell
- Then, at home, be sure to ask the kids how school is going--and don't let "fine" be their only answer. Check on their homework, keep track of important events, and read those newsletters the principal keeps sending home.
- Show a bit of interest in your child's classroom, and in return, they'll show a bigger interest in learning.

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