



Simple ways to help young children learn

Be safe and healthy. A safe environment (home & school) and proper health and nutrition support early learning.

Talk, sing and read to your child. Your child learns by hearing sounds and words at any age. The more you talk, the more they learn.

Spark curiosity and creativity. Ask your child questions that can't be answered by just "yes" or "no." Instead of just asking "Do you see that pretty bird?" add "What other things fly?"

Use everyday moments to learn. You can point out shapes, people, colors, and count different items almost anywhere.

Play with your child. When children play games or dress-up, they are learning important skills—it's not just child's play.

For more ideas, visit
www.papromiseforchildren.com

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Choosing an early learning program for your child

A quality early learning program—in child care, Head Start, or preschool—will help prepare your child for success in school and in life.

Here are things to look for:

Does the child care or Head Start program participate in Keystone STARS? Programs in Keystone STARS (at STAR 1-4 levels) are improving their quality to better serve your child.

What education do the teachers have? Teachers in quality programs have education in child development, such as a Child Development Associate (CDA), associate's or bachelor's degree.

Does the program provide activities appropriate for your child's age and development? Teachers should observe your child when he/she enters the program and provide activities that will help your child grow.

Does the program keep parents informed of their child's progress? Quality programs will talk with you about how your child is learning and suggest ways you can help your child learn at home.

Are the children happy and involved? Learning should be fun!

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