



ACADEMIC PARTNERSHIP IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL: ASKING THE RIGHT QUESTIONS

When families and teachers work together, students thrive. As a parent or caregiver, you play a vital role in your child's education—not just at home, but as an active partner in their academic journey.

One of the most powerful ways to support your child is by engaging in meaningful conversations with their teachers, especially during family conferences.

This resource is designed to help you ask thoughtful, informed questions that open the door to stronger communication and shared strategies for success.

Build a powerful partnership with your child's teacher by keeping up to date on...



What your child should know and be able to do by the end of the year



What your child is currently learning in class



How your child is performing relative to grade level standards



How you can support learning at home



How your child is doing socially



No matter your child's age or what they're learning, these questions can help you start meaningful conversations with their teacher. They're designed to give you a clearer picture of how your child is doing academically, what support they might need, and how you can stay involved. Use these as a starting point during family conferences or anytime you check in with your child's teacher.

GRADES AND PERFORMANCE



- ✓ What are my child's strengths in the classroom?
- ✓ Are there any areas where my child is struggling or needs more support?
- ✓ How is my child's progress measured or graded?
- ✓ What's the best way to stay in touch with you about my child's progress?
- ✓ How often will I receive updates or feedback?

STAYING ENGAGED

- ✓ Is my child participating in class and staying engaged in the lessons?
- ✓ What types of activities or assignments does my child seem to enjoy most?
- ✓ Does my child ask questions and seek help when needed?
- ✓ Is my child managing their time and responsibilities well?



FRIENDSHIPS AND SOCIAL SKILLS



- ✓ How does my child seem to feel during the school day?
- ✓ Does my child have friends and seem connected to others?
- ✓ How does my child interact with peers during class?
- ✓ Are there any behavior or focus concerns I should be aware of?
- ✓ How does my child handle conflict or disagreements with peers?

ELEMENTARY READING

Literacy is one of the most important building blocks of a child's education, and when families and educators stay connected, children are more likely to succeed. Use these questions to start meaningful conversations with your child's teachers and strengthen your partnership in supporting literacy growth.



- ✓ How do you assess my child's reading and writing progress throughout the year?
- ✓ What reading level is expected for students at this point in the year, and where is my child currently performing?
- ✓ What literacy skills is my child currently working on?
- ✓ What kinds of books or texts are best for my child's reading level and interests?
- ✓ What should I look for at home to know if my child is developing strong literacy skills?
- ✓ Are there specific habits (like reading every night or writing at home) that would make a big difference for my child?
- ✓ How can I encourage a love of reading and writing in my child?
- ✓ What resources (websites, libraries, programs) do you recommend for extra support or enrichment?
- ✓ What tools and strategies can you share so that I can support literacy at home?
- ✓ How can I get involved at school to support literacy development for my child and their classmates?



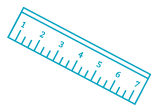
I ♥ READING

Strong literacy skills open the door to every other part of learning, and helping children build those skills is a true team effort. Your involvement makes a real difference. By asking questions, staying connected, and working together, families and teachers can create a powerful partnership that supports each child's growth as a reader and writer.



ELEMENTARY MATH

Building strong math skills takes teamwork between home and school. When families and teachers work together, students get the support and encouragement they need to tackle challenges, build confidence, and succeed. These questions are designed to help you connect with your child's teacher and create a shared approach to supporting your child's math development.



- ✓ What math concepts should my child master by this point in the school year?
- ✓ What math skills is my child currently working on?
- ✓ What are the grade level standards for math? How is my child performing on these standards?
- ✓ What are my child's strengths in math? Where might they need more practice?
- ✓ Is my child developing strong number sense and mental math skills appropriate for their grade level?
- ✓ How can I encourage my child to develop a positive attitude toward math?
- ✓ How can I support math learning at home in ways that feel natural and fun?
- ✓ What kinds of mistakes are typical at this stage, and how should I respond when my child makes them?
- ✓ Are there strategies or methods you are using in class that I can reinforce at home?
- ✓ What should I do if I notice my child struggling with their math homework or feeling frustrated?
- ✓ What resources (like websites, apps, or community programs) you recommend to build math skills at home?

A solid understanding of math empowers kids to think analytically, tackle problems, and approach challenges with assurance. Nurturing their development is a collaborative responsibility shared by both families and teachers. When you stay involved, encourage curiosity, and partner in the learning process, you strengthen your child's abilities and self-assurance as young mathematicians.

