

How was your day at school?

Students are back in school, and now is the time for parents to develop routines to help their children succeed academically. Kimberly Greder, Iowa State University Extension and Outreach family life specialist, says parental involvement, more than income or social status, is a predictor of student achievement.

- Create a home environment that encourages learning. Set high but reasonable expectations for your kids.
- Get involved, with your kids, in school and community activities. Ask about homework. Visit with teachers and school counselors. Ask them what you can do at home to help your kids succeed.
- Ask your kids about their day at school.
- Encourage reading at home and be a role model.
- Watch who your kids hang out with. Make sure they are doing healthy activities.
- Get your kids involved in activities or sports to develop leadership skills and positive communication and conflict resolution skills.

