

Helpful Questions to Ask Your Child about School

When your child comes home from school, you probably want to ask a lot of questions. To have the most helpful conversations, consider the following:

- Start with factual questions to ease into conversation.
- Avoid questions that can be answered by just one word, like yes or no. Ask questions that will keep a conversation going (open-ended questions).
- Avoid emotion-packed words (fun, happy, sad, mean) that may end a conversation.
- Allow for silence and for venting.
- Ask questions about times outside of classes (such as recess and lunch) to learn more about your child's social situation.



Instead of	Try These
How was school?	What's the biggest difference between this year and last year?
Did you have fun at school?	What was the best thing you did at school?
Who did you sit with? Who did you sit with?	Which four kids sat closest to you today?
Was your teacher nice?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What was the most interesting thing your teacher said today? • What class rules did your teacher say are important?
Are you still hanging out with ____?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who did you enjoy talking with the most? • Did anyone have anything fun or interesting to talk about?
Are your friends in your classes?	Can you name two kids from each class?
Was the work hard?	What was the best thing your teacher asked you to do in _____ today?
Did you play with anyone at recess?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What were most kids doing at recess? • What did you talk about at recess?
How was lunch?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who sat near you at lunch? • What were the other kids eating for lunch? • What was the funniest thing someone said at lunch?