



Help Your Child Write a Story About Going to School

Materials you will need

Photos, small notebook, glue, marker

1. Take photographs relevant to your child's experience. These could include: the vehicle your child will ride in to get to school, family members, the school building, their teacher(s), classroom, gym, art room, cafeteria, and playground. (If you can't take photos, download pictures from the school website, copy them from a school year book, use clip art, or draw pictures [with your child's help]. Arrange the photos in order so they describe your child's day. Glue them to the pages of a small blank notebook. Leave room under each picture to write a sentence.

2. Write a story

- Include your child's name in the title - "Jamie Goes to Kindergarten."
- Include a few pages as introduction, a few that tell most of the story, and a conclusion—what happens at the end of the day.
- Write the story at a level your child will understand.
- Use who, what, when, where, how, and why statements to tell the story. Include details appropriate to your child's age and the concerns your child might have about school.
- Write in the first person, as if your child was telling the story. For example, "I will meet my teacher on the first day of school."



3. Read the story with your child before the big day—as often as your child wants to hear it. As you read aloud and discuss the story, you may learn of new concerns about going to school that you did not write about. You can discuss the concerns or add them to the story. If your child is able, leave the story in your child's room so they can have access to it, and encourage them to read it before the big day.

4. Reinforce your child's efforts. Give praise when they read the story with you or on their own.

