



## Preparing for a Successful Year in Kindergarten

The following are suggestions for helping your child feel successful in Kindergarten and the following school years:

Please...

- Read to your child daily to help him/her develop vocabulary, concepts, and literacy skills. This can be in your first language or in English.
- Introduce your child to colours, shapes (triangle, square, etc.), and sizes (big, tall, etc.). This can be in your first language or in English. If it has been learned in one language it will be easier to transfer the skills to another language.
- Go on outings to the library, playground, the park, the beach, the zoo or on longer trips. Talk about your shared experiences. This will help develop language and also develop background knowledge needed for reading.
- Spend time talking to your child about stories, t.v., shows, what you see when you go places, or talk about what you are doing (cooking, etc.). This will help develop language skills and is the basis for further learning.
- Sing songs with your child. This will help develop language skills as well as an appreciation for music.
- Encourage your child to use scissors, crayons, pencil and paper for various art activities. This will develop his/her fine muscle control, making it easier to learn to write and develop appreciation for art.
- Encourage your child to play with other children. This will develop social skills and help him/her get along with other children. By playing with children who speak English, your child will find it much easier when starting school.
- Encourage your child's participation in pre-school or community programs. This will provide valuable skills useful for school, like following directions, learning to play with other children, etc.