



Mayor Jerry Abramson's Kindergarten Countdown Tips

Tip #1

It's important to get our kids off to a good start. Make sure kids are up to date on immunizations before the first day of school – your children must have shots before they can attend classes.

Tip #2

Spend time reading to your child everyday and visit the library. If your kids are starting kindergarten, have them read to you - pointing out letters, shapes and colors!

Tip #3

Make sure you attend your child's school orientation – let her meet the teacher and tour the building. This gets kids excited and eases first-day-of-school anxiety. Call your child's school for times and dates... and join the PTA.

Tip #4

Parents, establish a routine before school begins – make sure your child has a regular bedtime and gets plenty of sleep. This makes life easier for everyone when the alarm sounds on the first day of school.

Tip #5

If your child is starting kindergarten, it's a good idea to review the rules of good behavior – taking turns, raising hands, standing in line and sharing.

Tip #6

Talk to your child about what he'll be learning in class and why it's important. This lets kids know you think what they're doing is special!

Tip #7

Make everyday a learning experience – teach your kids about healthy eating and count aloud as they help you set the dinner table! Discuss the world around you as you're running errands.

Tip #8

Pay attention to the "little" things – notice the new skills your child is learning at school and reinforce that excitement about learning with praise.

Tip #9

Learning experts encourage you to talk with your children – discuss things you see while riding in the car and talk about the day's events at dinner. This increases vocabulary skills.

Tip #10

Make sure you go over safety rules with your children before they start kindergarten – talk about crossing the street and riding the bus.