

It Takes A Village: Using Community Resources to Support your Child's Education

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Learning begins at home:



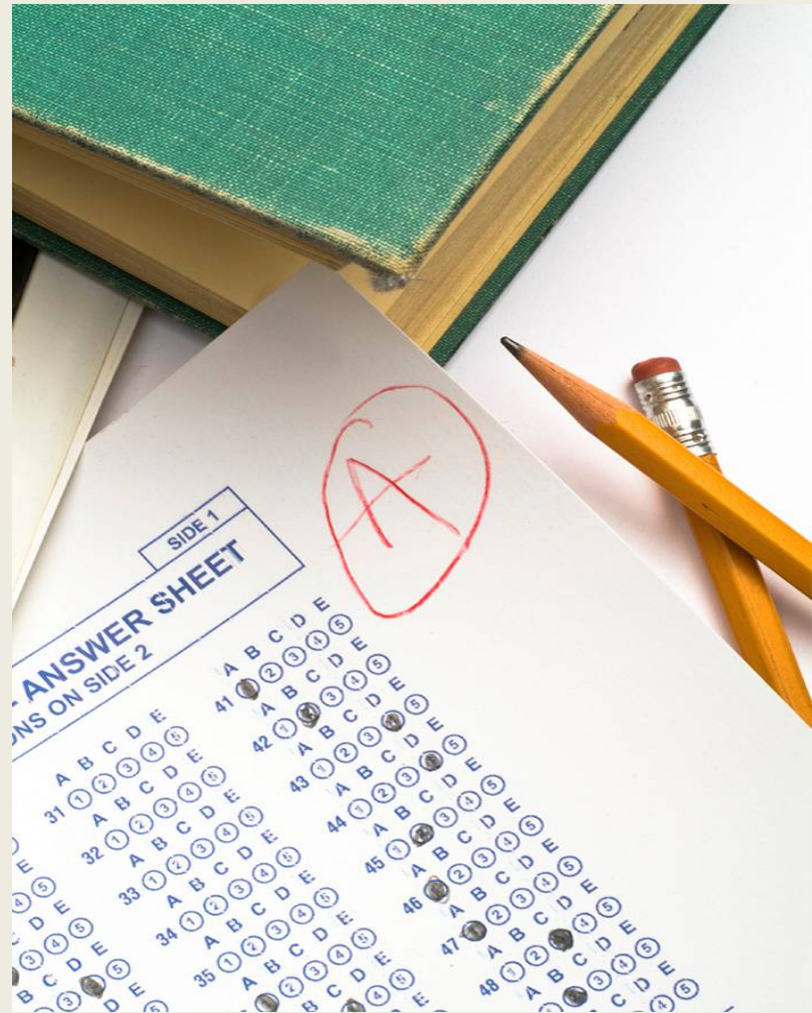
- You are the most important teacher your child will ever have.



Studies have found that the most successful students have the most involved parents



A large number of research studies show very clearly that bilingualism can increase children's language abilities and help their progress in school.



However, for children to experience these beneficial effects of bilingualism, it is important that both their home and school languages continue to develop.



When parents actively develop the home language, children come to school with the necessary foundation for acquiring high levels of reading and writing skills in the school language.

- Parents have many opportunities to use the community as a place to help their children learn.
- Everyday settings are filled with learning opportunities for your children.



- For example, during a shopping trip to the market or store, adults can develop children's concepts by bringing their attention to the shapes, colors, sounds, textures, and size of objects and events around them.



- In addition to conversing with children, adults can help prepare their children to succeed in school by encouraging them to take an active interest in books and in the print that surrounds them in the environment (e.g., signs, posters, labels).





- Local libraries often have story hours for young children.
- Many libraries have story hours in Spanish and other languages common to families in the community.
- Principals and teachers can help make parents aware of these services.

- During walks in the park with your child, look for opportunities to have conversations that inspire their creativity and language use.



- For example, your child becomes the storyteller and adult is active listener. You can ask open-ended questions of your child.
- Example = “Tell me a story about that bunny.”
- “Why do you think the bunny is hiding?”



- As a result, these family activities promote communication, develop children's bilingualism, and help build a solid foundation for doing well in school.

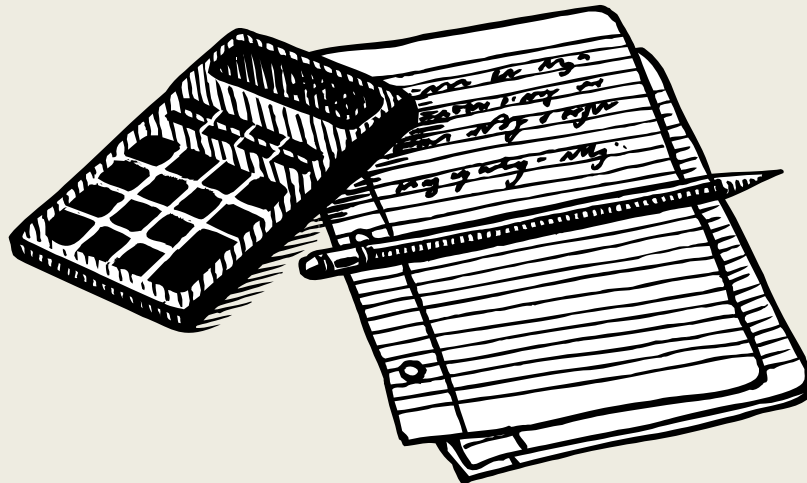


“Virtual” Community Resources

- Homework Help:
- http://www.chipublic.org/forkids/kidspages/homework_help.php
- http://www.chipublic.org/forteens/teenpages/homework_help.php



- For Math help:
- <http://countdown.luc.edu/>



Children's Museums & Parks of Interest

- **Kohl Children's Museum**
- 2100 Patriot Blvd, Glenview , IL
- (847) 832-6600
- www.kohlchildrensmuseum.org
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- **Exploratorium - Skokie Science Museum**
- 4701 W. Oakton Avenue, Skokie, IL 60076
- (847) 674-1500 e x2700
- EMAIL:info@skokieparkdistrict.org
- WEBSITE:[http://www.skokieparkdistrict.org/...](http://www.skokieparkdistrict.org/)
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- **[Chicago Children's Museum](http://www.chicagochildrensmuseum.org)**
- 700 E Grand Ave, Chicago - (312) 527-1000
- *www.chicagochildrensmuseum.org*
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- **Skokie Northshore Sculpture Park** (along McCormick from Devon to Golf)
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