

Questions and Answers about Starting School

1. What should I do if my child cries and does not want to go to school?

Response: Encourage him/her to go to school and send a note to inform the teacher. Be positive, calm, and firm when encouraging the child to go to school. Let him know that all of us are sometimes hesitant about going places, but it is necessary to go and be very brave.

2. What if my child says he/she doesn't feel well?

Response: If the child has no fever and is not vomiting, send him to school with a note to the teacher for awareness purposes. Say to the child that his teacher will know what to do for him.

3. What about bed time?

Response: A generally accepted time is between 7- 8 p.m. Many child specialists indicate that children often require ten hours of sleep. Whatever you decide, be sure to be consistent with the time.

4. My child says he has no friends – what shall I do?

Response: It is not unusual for children this age to report they have no friends, but trust us; they play with others on a regular basis. Disagreements are not unusual at this age, but when left alone to face the conflict, they can usually settle on their own.

5. How often should my child have friends over?

Response: Occasional visits during the month appear to be the norm, but of course every day is excessive.

6. Will my child think school is fun?

Response: The child will think school is fun after he sees himself learning to do new and exciting things. Please, however, do not describe that school will be fun in the weeks before he begins. He will expect something similar to Disney World, and as you know, that is not the case. Let him learn that learning is fun and having responsibility for things he can do will help develop a sense of pride.