

---

# 15 Questions to Ask at Parent-Teacher Conferences

---

## ABILITIES AND SKILLS

1. Is my child working to his ability?
2. What are my child's strengths and weaknesses?
3. What skills will my child be expected to master this year in math, English, science and social studies?

## GRADES AND TESTS

4. How are grades determined?
5. Which, if any, standardized tests will be given this year?



## BEHAVIOR AND PARTICIPATION

6. What is my child like in class?
7. How does my child interact with other children?
8. Does my child participate in classroom activities?
9. Does my child obey school rules?
10. Is there anything that I can share with you about what my child is like at home?

## ACADEMIC COMPREHENSION AND PROGRESS

11. Does my child understand what she reads?
12. Can my child express her thoughts and ideas clearly?
13. How is my child progressing academically?

## HOMEWORK

14. How much time should my child be spending on her homework?

## SUPPORT AT HOME

15. What can I do to support my child's learning at home?



---

## BEFORE THE CONFERENCE

- Talk to your child about how things are going in school.
  - Ask if your child has any questions that he wants you to ask the teacher.
  - Write down a list of questions for your child's teacher.
  - Prepare a list of things you want the teacher to know about your child.
  - Write down your contact information and give it to the teacher at the conference.
- 

---

## DURING THE CONFERENCE

- Make sure you ask the questions that are most important to you first, in case you run out of time.
- If you don't understand something, or would like more of an explanation, ask the teacher to clarify what she means.
- You may want to share with the teacher any information about your home situation that might impact your child's learning (such as a death in the family, divorce, homelessness, etc.).



---

## AFTER THE CONFERENCE

- Talk to your child. Let her know what you learned about her progress in school.
  - Begin right away to work on the plans you and the teacher discussed, like tutoring, enrichment activities, a behavior contract or extra reading.
  - Follow up with a note, email or phone call to thank the teacher and clarify anything that was discussed at the conference that you did not fully understand.
  - Keep in touch with the teacher and don't hesitate to schedule follow-up meetings.
  - If you and the teacher have issues that you could not resolve, ask for help from school staff like the guidance counselor, principal or Parent Coordinator.
  - Keep your contact information current. Let the school know if your phone number, home address or email address changes.
-