



PREPARE FOR SUCCESS

A Kindergarten

Parent Guide

to the Texas

Student Success

Initiative

PARENT TIPS TO PREPARE FOR SUCCESS

- ◆ At the beginning of the school year, meet with your child's teacher in person, through e-mail, or by telephone. Continue to keep in touch with your child's teacher throughout the school year.
- ◆ Attend the school's Open House and parent-teacher conferences. Ask about activities you can do with your child at home to help improve reading and math skills.
- ◆ Read and discuss a variety of materials with your child. Help your child understand the meanings of new words. Ask who, what, where, when, and why questions to help your child understand the main idea, purpose, and meaning of what is read.
- ◆ Help your child make connections between personal experience and the events and characters in a story. Ask if a story is similar to other stories and why.
- ◆ Encourage your child to talk about the steps used when solving a math problem.
- ◆ Find ways to incorporate math skills into every day situations like shopping, counting money, estimating time and distance when traveling...
- ◆ If your child seems to be struggling, ask the teacher about available assistance.



Kindergarten Notification Brochure
Adapted from TEA Materials

Region XIV Education Service Center

STATE LAW REQUIREMENTS

The Student Success Initiative was created by the Texas Legislature to ensure that all students receive the instruction and support they need to be academically successful in reading and mathematics.

Under the Student Success Initiative grade advancement requirements students are required to pass the Grade 3 Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) reading test to be promoted to fourth grade and to pass the Grade 5 TAKS reading and mathematics tests to be promoted to sixth grade. When the students have advanced to eighth grade, they will be required to pass the Grade 8 TAKS reading and mathematics tests to be promoted to ninth grade.

Students have three opportunities to meet the passing standard on each of the tests and will receive additional instruction after each testing opportunity in which they do not meet the standard. A grade placement committee, consisting of the principal, teacher, and parent or

guardian, meets when a student has not met the passing standard after two testing opportunities and is responsible for determining the accelerated instruction the student needs before the third testing opportunity. A student who does not meet the passing standard after three testing opportunities is automatically retained; however, if the parents appeal the retention, the grade placement committee may choose to promote the student if all members agree that the student is likely to perform on grade level with additional accelerated instruction.

The State of Texas and your local school district have designed kindergarten, first grade, and second grade curriculum and instruction to prepare your child for success on the Grade 3 TAKS. Tools have been put in place to monitor your child's progress from kindergarten through second grade. Your child's teachers will be sharing this information with you as it becomes available.

If you have any questions about the state requirements for grade advancement, contact your school's principal or go to the state's website at www.tea.state.tx.us/student.assessment/ and select the "Student Success Initiative" link.



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