

PARENT TALK

Katy parents share tips on common topics we all face

Q *How can I help my son with the transition into kindergarten?*

It's an Adjustment

"Have patience and know that it will take time to adjust. He will want to spend more time with you after school, so enjoy those moments and let him know you are there for him when needed." - B.G.

Emotional Connection

"At this age, your family is still the center of your child's universe, so you may need to focus on his emotional needs more." - S.L.

Have Fun

"Plan simple activities after school, like a family game night or taking a walk around the neighborhood to help him relax." - F.P.



Q *What should I do at a parent-teacher conference?*

Establish a Rapport

"Compliment the teacher on something she is doing to help your child or for leaving special notes on returned assignments." - N.H.

Ask Questions

"It's important to ask questions about the class, your child's struggles, what your child excels at, and if there is anything you can do to help." - M.L.

End on a Positive Note

"Let the teacher know that you are on his or her team and are willing to help in any way you can." - E.M.



Q *Time-out doesn't work for my daughter. Are there any alternatives?*

Take a Time-out Together

"Pull her away from the situation and talk with her for five minutes. Let her tell you what is upsetting her and how she is feeling." - T.L.

Ask a Question

"Ask her why she is displaying the bad behavior. You may find out she is just confused about how something works." - J.F.

Story Time

"Read her books and stories about children making mistakes or not understanding their feelings. She will get ideas about how to handle her own feelings." - D.F.

Q *I think my child may have a learning disability. What should I do?*

Talk to Your Doctor

"Make an appointment with your child's pediatrician. He or she will be able to complete a thorough evaluation" - L.D.

Become an Advocate

"Get your child's teacher and school involved. The school has ways to test for learning disabilities. You are going to have to be your child's advocate." - P.M.

Have helpful tips to share? Have questions of your own?

Email editor@katymagazine.com or visit Katy Magazine's Facebook page and watch for parent talk questions posted regularly!

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