

# LEARNING TO GROW

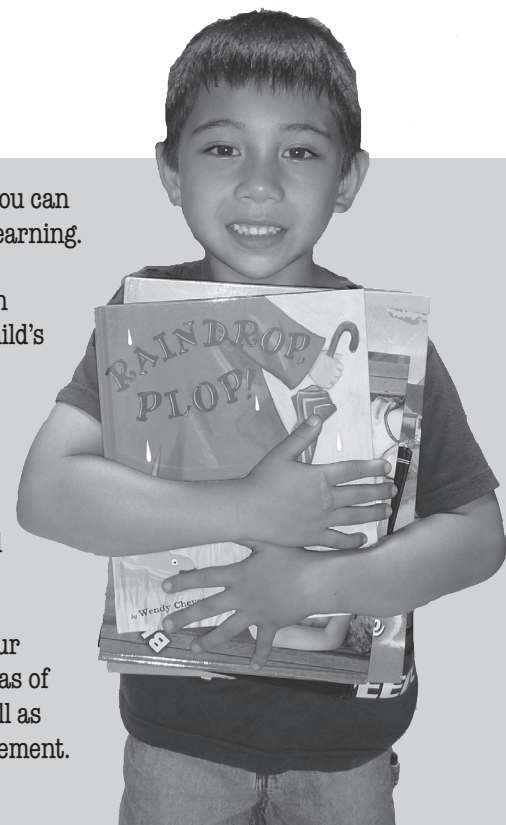
CENTER ON THE FAMILY ♥ UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII



## Raising a School-Ready Child Building a Family & School Partnership

Your involvement in your child's education contributes to his achievement and success in school. Building a positive relationship with your child's teachers and school is an important part of being involved. Here are some ways to do this.

Families /Parents Can...	You Can Expect or Request from Schools (Teachers, Principals, and/or Staff)...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduce yourself to your child's teacher at the start of the school year, and keep in touch throughout the school year.</li> <li>• Keep the school updated on any changes in your child's life that might affect his behavior and/or school performance, e.g., divorce, death, or illness in the family.</li> <li>• Make sure to keep the school updated on any changes in your contact information: addresses, phone numbers, and emergency contacts.</li> <li>• Promptly respond to inquiries from the teacher or school; return requested forms.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An introduction through an orientation meeting, a note or letter, or a phone call.</li> <li>• Information on how to contact the school or teacher if you have questions or concerns.</li> <li>• A timely response to your inquiries.</li> <li>• Timely contact about issues or concerns regarding your child.</li> <li>• Information about school policies, e.g., absences, homework, tardiness, testing.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider yourself and your child's teacher as partners in your child's education—explore ways that you can work together to support your child.</li> <li>• Keep in mind that every child develops at his own rate. Recognize that assessments help the teacher identify your child's strengths and needs.</li> <li>• Attend parent-teacher conferences; discuss your child's positive accomplishments as well as concerns about his performance in school.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suggestions on how you can support your child's learning.</li> <li>• Classroom instruction that builds on your child's strengths and meets his needs, based on assessments conducted at the beginning of and throughout the school year.</li> <li>• Information about your child's progress—areas of positive growth as well as those needing improvement.</li> </ul>



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Families /Parents Can...	You Can Expect or Request from Schools (Teachers, Principals, and/or staff)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be informed about what’s going on at the school; read school newsletters or other materials from the school.</li> <li>• Join the Parent-Teacher Organization and participate in its meetings.</li> <li>• Offer to volunteer in your child’s classroom or assist the teacher or school in other ways.</li> <li>• Participate in the school’s decision making process regarding curriculum, policies, and school reform.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information about upcoming events such as parent-teacher conferences and parent-teacher organization meetings through flyers, notes, and/or phone calls.</li> <li>• A variety of opportunities to assist with or participate in school and community events.</li> <li>• Opportunities to participate in the school’s decision making process</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask about resources and services that can benefit your child, such as: (a) free or reduced-cost breakfast and lunch; (b) after school programs; (c) ELL—English Language Learner programs; (d) tutoring assistance; (e) parent education classes; (f) assistance for homeless children; (g) transportation services; (h) special education programs; (i) programs for gifted and talented students; and (j) other services.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information and application forms for services to families, and assistance with completing the forms, if necessary.</li> <li>• Follow up to ensure that the child is receiving appropriate supportive services.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss any special needs that may affect your child’s learning with your child’s teacher as soon as possible.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information about developmental assessments and special-needs services available to the child, if needed.</li> </ul>

