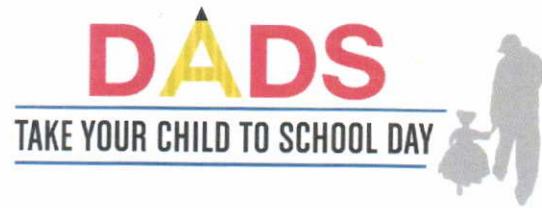


September 2017



Dear Parent/Guardian:

We would like to invite all our families to our **DADS TAKE YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL DAY** event! On September 27, 2017, from 7:30 am to 8:30 am, we encourage all fathers to take their children to school and enjoy a donut and juice breakfast with your child. All father figures are welcomed, including stepfathers, grandfathers, uncles, brothers, foster fathers and other significant role models. Although the event is centered on fathers, mothers and other family members are also welcome.

The intent of this initiative is to highlight the significant difference fathers and father figures can make by taking a more active role in their children's educational experience. When fathers play a more active role in a child's education, children perform better academically; have fewer discipline problems; and become more responsible adults. We hope all fathers will take this opportunity to become more familiar with our school and staff and that you will return often.

What about moms? Moms are vital in the lives of their children and are often the parent who is more involved in their children's education. Dads Take Your Child to School Day is just one chance for us to shine the spotlight on dads and encourage men to get involved.

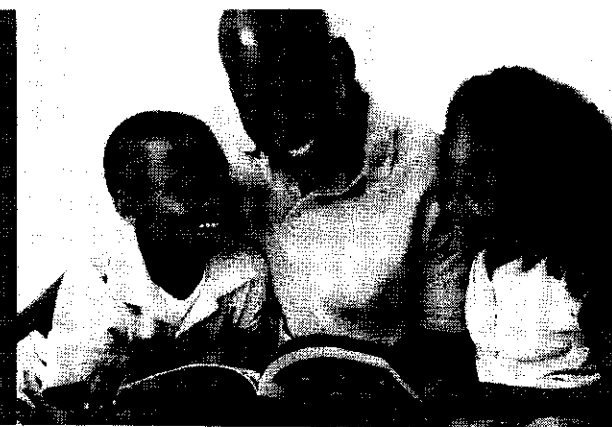
For more information about **DADS TAKE YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL DAY**, please contact Sheliah Stills at (863)815-6633/34. We hope to see you there!

Sincerely,

Diana Clopton, Title 1 Contact

Sheliah Stills, Parent Involvement Secretary

# 5 Ways to Bond Through Reading



**Hey dads, here's a simple question:** How much do you read with your children? Once a day, once a week, all the time, not sure if I do...? It turns out that anywhere is a good place to start, and there are so many great reasons to ramp it up.

Research tells us that kids who read with their parents learn significantly faster and better. Our hearts and memories tell us that story time with mom or dad is the absolute best. Remember sinking deep into an easy chair to share a story? You and your child so close and so completely in the moment. It's the kind of magic that makes a family tight, a one-stop-shop for bonding, learning, fun, and rich relationships.

Here are some ideas to help get the ball rolling. **Reading with your kids could be one of the best things you do this year as a dad.**

1

**Make story time with your child a routine:** Just before supper; right after bath; a bedtime ritual; whatever works with your family schedule. Children thrive on routine, and they're going to love this one.

2

**Read with the children, not just to them:** This may mean running your finger under the words as you say them, entering into the spirit of the story, reading with expression and enthusiasm, and seeing how much fun reading can be because dad loves it too!

3

**Make reading an interactive experience:** Ask questions as you go, such as, "What do you think happens next," "Remind me what happened back on that last page," and "Let's read this sentence out loud together."

4

**Be an active reader yourself:** Sometimes when the children are reading their book, you can be reading one of your own. Share what's going on in your story and ask what's going on in theirs.

5

**Subscribe to an age appropriate magazine in your child's name:** It's fun to get something in the mail, and it's always fresh material.

**Make books and reading part of your family culture, and they won't just fall in love with reading, they'll fall more in love with you.**



# 101 Ways to Praise Children

- THAT'S INCREDIBLE! ♦ HOW EXTRAORDINARY! ♦ FAR OUT! ♦ GREAT!  
OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE! ♦ MARVELOUS! ♦ I CAN'T GET OVER IT! ♦ WONDERFUL!  
AMAZING EFFORT! ♦ UNBELIEVABLE WORK! ♦ YOU SHOULD BE PROUD! ♦ PHENOMENAL!  
YOU'VE GOT IT! ♦ SUPERB! ♦ YOU'RE SPECIAL! ♦ COOL! ♦ EXCELLENT! ♦ YOUR PROJECT IS FIRST RATE!  
WAY TO GO! ♦ YOU'VE OUTDONE YOURSELF! ♦ THUMBS UP! ♦ WHAT A GREAT LISTENER!  
YOUR HELP COUNTS! ♦ YOU CAME THROUGH! ♦ TERRIFIC! ♦ YOU TRIED HARD! ♦ FABULOUS!  
YOU MADE IT HAPPEN! ♦ YOU'RE A REAL TROOPER! ♦ THE TIME YOU PUT IN REALLY SHOWS! ♦ BRAVO!  
YOU'RE UNIQUE! ♦ EXCEPTIONAL! ♦ FANTASTIC WORK! ♦ BREATHTAKING!  
YOU'RE A GREAT EXAMPLE FOR OTHERS! ♦ KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK! ♦ AWESOME!  
I KNEW YOU HAD IT IN YOU! ♦ YOU'VE MADE PROGRESS! ♦ YOUR WORK IS OUT OF SIGHT!  
WHAT AN IMAGINATION! ♦ IT'S EVERYTHING I HOPED FOR! ♦ STUPENDOUS! ♦ YOU'RE SENSATIONAL!  
VERY GOOD! ♦ YOU MADE THE DIFFERENCE! ♦ GOOD FOR YOU! ♦ A+ WORK! ♦ TAKE A BOW!  
SUPER JOB! ♦ HOW THOUGHTFUL OF YOU! ♦ NICE GOING! ♦ CLASS ACT! ♦ WELL DONE!  
YOU'RE INSPIRING! ♦ HOW ARTISTIC! ♦ YOU GO THE EXTRA MILE! ♦ HOORAY FOR YOU! ♦ YOU'RE A JOY!  
YOU'RE A SHINING STAR! ♦ YOU'RE AMAZING! ♦ WHAT A GREAT IDEA! ♦ GREAT ANSWER!  
EXTRA SPECIAL WORK! ♦ YOU DESERVE A HUG! ♦ YOU'RE GETTING BETTER! ♦ YOU'RE TOPS!  
YOU'RE CATCHING ON! ♦ YOU'VE GOT WHAT IT TAKES! ♦ YOU'RE NEAT! ♦ SPECTACULAR WORK!  
YOU'RE #1! ♦ REMARKABLE! ♦ YOU'RE A WINNER! ♦ BEAUTIFUL! ♦ CLEVER! ♦ YOU'RE SO KIND!  
WOW! ♦ MAGNIFICENT! ♦ YOU'RE SHARP! ♦ GREAT DISCOVERY! ♦ YOU'RE VERY RESPONSIBLE!  
BRILLIANT! ♦ THANKS FOR HELPING! ♦ THANKS FOR CARING! ♦ YOU'RE A-OKAY! ♦ WHAT A GENIUS!  
YOU'VE EARNED MY RESPECT! ♦ YOU'RE A PLEASURE TO KNOW! ♦ YOU'RE VERY TALENTED!  
HOW ORIGINAL! ♦ VERY BRAVE! ♦ CONGRATULATIONS! ♦ YOU'RE A CHAMP! ♦ YOU'RE SUPER!  
YOU FIGURED IT OUT! ♦ RIGHT ON! ♦ YOU'RE THE GREATEST! ♦ YOU MAKE ME SMILE!!

NOVEMBER IS PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT MONTH, GET INVOLVED!



Florida Department of Education  
325 West Gaines Street, Suite 544  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
850-245-0847  
[www.fldoe.org/family/](http://www.fldoe.org/family/)

# Research and Overview

The continuum of research, policy development and program implementation related to family involvement supports emphasis on engaging fathers as a means of increasing student achievement.

More than 30 years of research findings maintains the belief that a positive relationship exists between increased family engagement and student academic success. Although specific research into the impact of the father's role in a child's academic development is growing, findings<sup>1</sup> suggest that when fathers are actively involved in their child's education, students:

- Perform better academically;
- Have fewer discipline problems; and
- Become more responsible adults.

One meta-analysis<sup>2</sup> found that the overall effect of the involvement of fathers in education was positive regardless of the child's age, race and expression of involvement.

Annual one-day initiatives have been promoted by various states to highlight the significance of a child's father or male caregiver in his or her education. Typically, initiatives are held in the fall and align to other Back-to-School activities.

J. Michael Hall, of Strong Fathers<sup>3</sup>, noted that from his organization's work with fathers, greater participation is realized when programs are:

- Interactive (Activities include engagement between father and child);
- Relational (Fathers learning from other fathers); and
- Relevant (Link to learning).

Those practices closely align to Process Conditions emphasized in the Dual Capacity-Building Framework for Family-School Partnerships<sup>4</sup>. The conditions highlighted in the framework are important to building the capacity of families and schools to effectively partner in ways that improve student outcomes.

---

<sup>1</sup> A Call to Commitment: Fathers' Involvement in Children's Learning. (2000, June 1). Retrieved April 14, 2015, from <http://www2.ed.gov/pubs/parents/calltocommit/index.html>.

<sup>2</sup> Jeynes, W. H. (2014). A Meta-Analysis: The Relationship Between Father Involvement and Student Academic Achievement. *Urban Education*, 0042085914525789.

<sup>3</sup> [www.strongfathers.com](http://www.strongfathers.com).

<sup>4</sup> Mapp, K. L., & Kuffner, P. J. (2013). *Partners in Education: A Dual Capacity-Building Framework for Family-School Partnerships*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Education, SEDL. Retrieved from <http://www2.ed.gov/documents/familycommunity/partners-education.pdf>.

# DADS

**TAKE YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL DAY**



## PLEDGE

**As a father, stepfather, grandfather, uncle, brother, foster father or significant male role model,  
I pledge to:**

- ✎ Support my child's teacher and school in providing a high-quality education and ensuring that education remains a priority in my household.
- ✎ Set high expectations for my child's educational success.
- ✎ Stay informed about my child's academic and behavioral progress.
- ✎ Volunteer at my child's school throughout the year when possible.
- ✎ Encourage my child to do his/her best every day.

# DADS

TAKE YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL DAY



## PROMESA

**Como padre, padrastro, abuelo, tío, hermano, padre adoptivo o modelo masculino importante, prometo:**

- ✎ Apoyar al maestro y a la escuela de mi hijo para que puedan brindarle una educación de gran calidad y garantizar que la educación siga siendo una prioridad en mi hogar.
- ✎ Fijar expectativas altas para el éxito educativo de mi hijo.
- ✎ Mantenerme informado sobre el progreso académico y de comportamiento de mi hijo.
- ✎ Participar como voluntario en la escuela de mi hijo a lo largo del año cuando sea posible.
- ✎ Alentar a mi hijo a dar lo mejor de sí todos los días.