

What to Look for in Your Child's Classroom...

Our children deserve an education that reflects the most up-to-date thinking and educators who consider not only what they teach, but how they teach. The following checklist can be utilized to assess what you see in your child's classroom, the work your child brings home, and what you learn when you talk with your child and your child's teacher about school work.

It is clear that great classrooms utilize these principles to make instruction and learning more effective. When children enjoy learning, increased achievement is the ultimate result.



A Parent's Checklist

- **Learning is active:** My child is engaged in active learning, using hands-on activities and experiences to deepen understanding and ensure learning.
- **Learning is challenging:** The work my child is given requires thought and study. When accomplished, my child feels very proud.
- **Learning is varied:** The assignments my child is given require thinking, working and communicating with others, drawing pictures, making charts and graphs, building models, creating computer designs, putting on skits, and describing things in his/her own words.
- **Learning is meaningful:** The topics studied, the projects taught and the lessons assigned are interesting and relevant to my child.
- **Learning is collaborative:** The classroom is arranged to allow my child to work with one or more classmates on academic tasks—designing questions, discussing and trying out new ideas and explaining their findings to others.
- **Learning is a shared responsibility.** Sharing means that the family, the teacher and the child all contribute to the learning process. The teacher provides a clear structure and guides the learning process. My child knows what the expectations are, develops a plan and carries out this work with more and more independence.



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**Tips for
Helping Your Child
Achieve**

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and ideas,
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