



First Steps

(The Year Before Kindergarten)

So, your child starts kindergarten next year...



Identify your child's school

Call your county school board information line. Locate this number in the colored government pages at the front of your phone book.

Go to the nearest school. Give them your address and ask for your school assignment or for someone else who can help you.

Information to get from the school.

- ⇒ A list of entry requirements
- ⇒ An enrollment form
- ⇒ School hours
- ⇒ Info. about after school programs
- ⇒ Bus transportation (pick-up location, hours, telephone number of county transportation office)
- ⇒ Dates for Kindergarten Round-up

Connect with other parents

Find other parents with children who will enter kindergarten at the same school next year.





The Center for Parent Involvement (FCPI) was funded by the U.S. Department of Education; Goals 2000, Educate America Act from 1994-1999. Guided by an advisory board of parents and professionals, the FCPI's goal was to tap the power of parents.

The FCPI gathered information on parent needs, coordinated the information, and created a series of resources organized by theme, including fact sheets for parents and professionals, "Beyond the Basics" resources, and resource identification lists. Many of the resources have been translated into Spanish language versions, and every effort has been made to preserve the meaning and flavor of the original English documents. This series of materials provides a wealth of current information for both parents and providers; the complete set of resources can be obtained in PDF format on the Department of Child and Family Studies Website at www.fmhi.usf.edu/cfs/dares/fcpi. The staff of the FCPI are hopeful that their work will continue to help children get ready to learn for many years to come.

The series' themes include:

- Family Empowerment
- Parent Involvement
- Parenting Support
- School Readiness
- Violence in the Lives of Children
- Transition to Kindergarten

The Center was one component of a project led by Hillsborough County Center of Excellence in collaboration with the Department of Child & Family Studies at USF's de la Parte Institute and the Florida Children's Forum. Other project partners include HIPPI (Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters), Hillsborough County Head Start and Hillsborough County Even Start. For more information about these projects, call 813.974.4612.

Transition Series, Parent tip sheets. #2: The first steps.

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This is a good time for you to get to know the other adults. You can support each other in emergency situations, car-pooling, waiting at the bus stop, or before and after school care.



Children are more comfortable in familiar surroundings. Getting to know other children who will attend their school can make the situation more pleasant.



For more information contact: