

Topic: Participate in Your Child's Education

Let's get started...

Does your child go to school? What grade is your child in? Do you know the name of your child's teacher?

Background:

In America, parents often participate in their child's education. Some parents volunteer in the classroom, some parents help their children with homework, some parents talk with their child's teacher, and other parents plan activities for the school. Parents can support their children by participating in their education.



In pairs for 5 minutes, ask and answer these questions:

Talk about education in your native country:

- Do children usually have homework?
- Do parents usually participate in their child's education?
- Do parents usually volunteer in their child's classroom?
- Do parents usually talk with their child's teacher?
- Do parents and teachers have meetings about the children?
- Are teachers allowed to punish children at school? What kind of punishment?



Share your partner's answers with the group.

Discussion Questions:

How is your child's school in America different from school in your native country?

Describe the differences between teachers in America and teachers in your native country.

Why do you think people become teachers?

Why is it important to go to school?

In your native country, do parents have to give permission for some school activities? (For example, field trips)

Do you have to pay for anything at school in your native country? (For example, books, school supplies, field trips) Have you had to pay for anything for your child's school in America?

How would you improve your child's education?

Have you ever talked to your child's teacher? How did you feel?

Have you ever had a parent-teacher conference with your child's teacher?

How much homework does your child have every night?

Have you ever helped your child with their homework? How did you feel? Did you understand the homework assignment?

Have you ever read a teacher's letter? Did you understand it?

Have you ever written a note to your child's teacher? Was it difficult?

Have you ever volunteered in your child's classroom? How was it?

What are some volunteer opportunities at your child's school?

What would you do if you were worried about your child in school?

What would you do if your child wanted to drop out of school?

What would you do if your child was cheating?

How can you help your child learn skills they can use at school?

How does school prepare your children for adult life?

Do you think your child only learns at school? How can you help them learn at home?

Will you encourage your children to go to college? Why or why not?

New words and Idioms:

Participate, volunteer, conference, punishment, permission, field trip, drop out, cheating, skills, college