

## Helping Parents Prepare for Parent-Teacher Conferences

The parent-teacher conference can be a bit intimidating, especially if it's your first one or your first with a new teacher. Remember that a teacher is probably as nervous about meeting you as you are about meeting with him. Here are some things to think about to help you to get ready for the conference.

Have I decided on specific questions to ask the teacher? For example, is my child doing as well as expected in reading? Why are certain procedures followed in the classroom? What are the policies regarding homework?

Am I prepared to answer questions that might be asked by the teacher about my child's hobbies and interests? Special health problems? Provisions for study at home?

Have I expressed interest in the conference with my child? Have I noted an especially good experience or problem area my child has had in school to relate to the teacher? Have I asked my child if he has questions or complaints?

After the conference

- Note the important points of the conference.
- Share the results of the conference with your child.
- Together, design a definite action plan that will promote improved academic growth for your child.
- Feel free to arrange additional conferences.

*Source: NSPRA's Principals in the Public*