

FAMILY411 RADIO TIPS

1. Did you know that the No Child Left Behind Act guarantees families of public school children certain rights? According to this law, families have the right to:

- ∂ Receive information about their child's progress in school;
- ∂ Receive information on the performance of their child's school;
- ∂ Know whether their child's teacher is highly qualified in the subject and teaches based on ideas and methods that have been shown to work;
- ∂ Have state support in improving schools when schools do not improve on their own; and
- ∂ Have access to School Choice or Supplemental Services under certain conditions when schools are low performing.

Call the Family Resource Center for more information and to see if your child qualifies. 1-800-434-3399 Toll Free in RI.

2. No Child Left Behind on Reading: Research shows that children who learn to read well in the early grades are more likely to have academic success as they get older, and that those who start out behind in reading often stay behind. Reading well leads to success in other subjects and reduces the chance that a student will drop out of school. No Child Left Behind helps schools to offer reading programs that have been shown to be successful. You can help too. Listen carefully to your child and look at him when you talk. Read with or to your child every day. Sing songs and make up silly rhymes. Tell your child what new words mean. You are your child's first and best teacher – always.

3. Kindergarten Tips: Visit your local public school and find out how to enroll your child in kindergarten. Some private kindergartens have waiting lists, based on available slots. Make sure you are aware of how to give your child the best chance to attend the school you select by learning as much as you can about:

- the school;
- the teachers;
- the forms that must be completed;
- the kindergarten program;
- the school-year calendar;
- the type of transportation available;
- the meals and snacks served; and

- how you can become involved in the school's activities and help your pre-schooler at home.
4. What happens at home is the most important part of education according to some researchers. Here are some things you can do to be involved in your child's education from home:
- ∂ Check the backpack every days for messages and home work;
 - ∂ Supervise your child's homework and make sure he/she turns it in the next day;
 - ∂ Have your child earn TV time by reading books;
 - ∂ Take your child to your local public library;
 - ∂ Talk to your child's teacher and give any information about your child that will help the teacher understand him/her better;
 - ∂ Tell your child how important education is in having a more successful future and career; and
 - ∂ Get your child to school every day on time.