



Read It Once Again



Back to School: Tips to Starting Out on the Right Foot

Organize



Plan Ahead

- ✓ Know what units and activities you would like to cover for the first of the year. Planning ahead will relieve stress and allow you to focus on classroom management and building positive relationships with children and families. (Units for "The Kissing Hand" or "From Head to Toe" are recommended for the beginning of the school year.)

Label Classroom Spaces

- ✓ Use sentence strips and the child's picture to label the child's spaces around the room. Providing each child with their own animal symbol in addition to his/her name is a great way for the child to identify their space. A few suggested areas for using animal labels are:

- cubby
- name card for group time
- floor space (to line up)
- take home folder
- floor space at group time
- cot
- extra clothes bin

Sofia 

Noah 

Simmon 

Madison 

- See [Read It Once Again's Preschool Classroom Management Guide](#) for animal graphics and more suggestions for setting up your room.



Family Involvement



Family Board

- ✓ Designate one bulletin board in the room for family pictures. Teachers can take pictures at open house, or request a picture to be sent to school. Teachers can also put pictures of the families on the board. (This can also be made into a book.)

Clear Expectations



- ✓ At the beginning of the year it is very important for teachers to explain their expectations for the school year (communication, class rules, attendance, etc.). Ask parents what they would like their child to learn over the school year.

Contact Information

- ✓ Provide a small card with your name and contact information for families (numbers, emails, school fax, and school/class website).

A Little About You

- ✓ While you may be asking a lot of questions about the child, families would like to know more about you. Provide a short letter introducing yourself, your teacher assistants, the curriculum, and any other important information.

Be Positive

- ✓ Nervous or not, smile and be positive.

