



How Is My First Grader Doing in School? What to Expect and How to Help

By Jennifer Richard Jacobson

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As the parent of a first grader, you may be asking yourself:

When will my child begin to read?

Is it okay that my child still counts on his fingers?

What can I do to make sure my child knows everything she should?

Perhaps you've been told by your child's teacher that your first grader is doing fine. But what does "fine" really mean, and how can you be sure that your child's academic growth will continue?

Be your child's best teacher. Find out what your child knows, what your child needs to know, and how to work with your child to ensure success in school.

Inside, there is a wealth of fun, easy-to-do activities designed to teach your child important skills. The time you spend together will foster a love of learning that will remain with your child in the years to come.

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

It may surprise parents to realize that the best way to support a child's education is *not* to spend extra time teaching them new information. Toss the home workbooks and flashcards, suggests educator and author Jennifer Richard Jacobson. Instead, spend your "teaching" time learning about your child. What are your child's weaknesses, strengths, and passions? What are the academic expectations of a first grader? What are they supposed to be doing socially at this stage of development?

With all this crucial information in hand, Jacobson then helps parents figure out simple and spontaneous home activities that will foster strengths, boost areas of weakness, and recognize innate interests. A child who is struggling with phonics may benefit from writing a grocery list with a parent. "Let's see, how should we spell *macaroni*?" a father might ask. A child who loves math will blossom when offered a chance to work with patterned beading projects, or play a game of Mancala with mom, or go on a scavenger hunt for items with specific numbers written on them. Each book in the series contains a teacher-approved assessment booklet, so parents can evaluate their children's skills in a low-stress home situation. Whether your child attends public or private school, *How Is My First Grader Doing?* is an excellent (and smoothly written) resource for parents and their children. --*Gail Hudson*

Review

Jacqueline Haines Executive Director, the Gesell Institute Jennifer Jacobson has provided for teachers and parents appropriate guidelines for classroom expectations. These volumes, when used in parallel with school curriculum, can be a very fine support for parent and child. -- *Review*

About the Author

Jennifer Richard Jacobson received her BS in Education in 1980 from Lesley College and her master's in Education from Harvard Graduate School of Education. She has taught preschool through sixth grade and has served as Curriculum Coordinator, Admissions Director, Head of Studies, and Language Arts Specialist in several New England schools. She has also served as an educational consultant, offering workshops for teachers, parents, and librarians, and has written over twenty books for classroom use. She lives in Maine with her husband and two children.

Users Review

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Anthony Russell:

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