

## Top 10 Tips for Parents

1. **Ask Questions:** Go to your child's school and meet the principal and your child's teacher(s). Be sure to ask any questions you have regarding American schools and procedures.
2. **Request an interpreter if needed:** You have a right to have an interpreter present for conferences or meetings.
3. **Request school materials be printed in your home language if necessary:** The school should provide school documents, newsletters, or official papers in your home language.
4. **Volunteer at school:** Ask your child's teacher how you can help in the classroom and in the school.
5. **Share your culture:** Your heritage and culture are part of who you are and it is important for your child to keep that identity even though they are experiencing new cultures. It's a great learning opportunity for American students to experience a culture that is different from their own.
6. **Continue to let your child use the native language at home:** Practicing English is important, but it is also important for your child to continue to use and practice their home language. The goal is for your child to become bilingual (proficient in both languages).

7. Read with your child: Read with your child in the home language and in English. Let your child pick out the books and let them read to you, as well.
8. Ask the school about your child's English proficiency levels.
9. If your child is in a state testing grade, ask your child's school what accommodations your child is eligible for.
10. Advocate for your child: Become familiar with laws and policies that affect ELL students and their educational career.