

Parents and the American Montessori Society

** Remember parents are the first teachers!*

As a parent you are a role model and teacher

- Be a patient observer and careful listener
- Place your confidence in your child
- Provide simple, safe, and consistent rules encouraging your child to take responsibility and contribute to the home and family
- Model how to treat household items

As a parent you prepare your child's home

- Provide safety (physical and emotional)
- Create organization, consistency, and a reliable routine
- Designate age-appropriate responsibilities for your child (chores)
- Allow your child to make age appropriate choices (clothing, lunch)

As a parent you set the limits

- Limit toys and games to a workable number (rotate items)
- Monitor television and other forms of media
- Develop consistent routines to help your child use self-control
- Hold your child accountable

As a parent you support and encourage your child

- Offer your child opportunities to do things for themselves (cook, clean their bedrooms and other rooms in the house, pack their own lunch, care for plants or pets)
- Encourage your child to be active in his/her own education (homework)
- Assist them in creating their own daily schedule (morning routines, homework time, television times, bedtime routines)
- Help your child take responsibility for themselves

Other things to do at home

- Read, read, read (designate family reading time, model reading yourself, read aloud)
- Encourage your child to pursue their own interests (research animals, cars, people, etc.)
- Go to your local library consistently