

Imagining the Ideal School Environment

When looking at school options, it can sometimes be helpful to learn what your child thinks the ideal school would be like. This can be a fun project. Perhaps your child could build the perfect school (with LEGOs, on Minecraft, etc.) or draw the perfect school. Perhaps your child could write a story about the perfect school day (or make a movie or record the story with an audio recorder). Or your child could make a collage or write lists about what the school would be like. It may be helpful to have your child think about physical things (like what the school looks like), the types of people in the school, what and how students learn, and little daily things (like lunch and recess). If you want to take notes during this project, you could act as a “reporter” writing a news report about the opening of the school. Some questions that you could ask your child about the perfect school are:

- What’s the school’s name?
- Where would the school be?
- What would the school building and grounds look like?
- What would classrooms look like? What color would they be? Would there be desks? Fluffy chairs? Couches? Pillows to sit on the floor? What would be on the walls? On the ceilings? What would the floor be made out of? What type of classroom supplies would be in the classroom?
- What would the students in your school be like?
- What do students study? What don’t they study?
- Would there be teachers? If so, what would the teachers be like? What would their job be?
- Do students have free time or recess? What do students do during that time? Where can they go during that time?
- Do students work by themselves? Do they work in groups? Do they work as a whole class or school?
- What does work look like at school? Worksheets? Reading? Projects?
- What do students use to learn? Books? Which ones? Videos? Does the teacher lecture a lot?
- Are there any special classes that require special rooms like a pool or a library?
- Do the students go on field trips? How often? Where do they go?
- Are there school assemblies? How often? What are the assemblies about?
- Are there any special school traditions or events?
- Are there any after-school clubs, sports, or extracurriculars?
- How long are students at school? What does a typical day look like?
- Do students go to school every day? Do they have school breaks?
- Do students have homework? What type of homework? How long does it take?
- What would students wear at school?
- What do students eat at school? When do they eat? Do have just lunch or are there many snacks?
- What would the school motto be?
- What would the school colors and mascot be?
- Who runs the school? What is that person or what are those people like?
- What are the school rules?



- Are the students divided into different classes? If so, how does the school determine which class a student is in?