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Visit the Vermont Department of Education website at:
http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm_title1.html

Recommended Websites to Preview:

Family Education Network
www.familyeducation.com

**Publications for Parents Including the Partnerships for
Family Involvement in Education**
www.ed.gov/pubs/parents

Helping Your Child Learn Math
www.ed.gov/pubs/parents/Math/index.html

Essex Junction School District

Title I Math *Parent Involvement Information*



Linda Keating
Executive Director of Curriculum,
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Chittenden Central Supervisory Union

Parent Involvement Information

New Research Confirms Parent, Community Collaborations Are Key to Student Success

- Studies show that school practices to encourage parents to participate in their children's education are more important than family characteristics such as parental education, family size, marital status, socioeconomic level, or student grade level in determining whether parents get involved.
- For partnerships to work there must be mutual trust and respect, an ongoing exchange of information, agreement on goals and strategies, and a sharing of rights and responsibilities.
- The role of parents in the education of their children cannot be overestimated. By becoming involved in their local school community, parents can provide essential leadership; which will lead to improvements in educational opportunities for their children.

What Parents Can Do:

When parents and families get personally involved in education, their children do better in school and grow up to be more successful in life.

Tips for Parents

- Be a model. Let your children see you use your math skills. Involve your children in daily activities that require math skills and problem solving.
- Provide a quiet place for home learning and monitor progress.
- Establish a daily family routine with scheduled check-in time to discuss school and review what your child is learning.
- Foster accountability by reinforcing application of things skills learned in school.
- Keep in touch with the school. Visit the school or talk with teachers on the phone.

What Schools Can Do:

Schools can become places where families feel wanted and recognized for their strength and potential in collaborating to improve student achievement.

- Schools need to make a concerted effort to help families get involved. Parents often can benefit from being taught home teaching techniques.
- Title I schools have established pledges or compacts; written agreements among families and school staff to work together to increase learning.
- Principals should create an environment in which teaching and learning at both school and home are valued and affirmed.
- Staff should validate parents so that they feel like full partners.
- Parents sometimes become disconnected from schools. Educators need to be willing to recognize and respond to this disconnection and work to find meaningful ways for involving families in their children's education.