

Hello Everyone!

Today's topic is: [Social Skills for American Schools](#).

In American schools children are taught social skills and are expected to behave appropriately. Collaboration, cooperation and participation are key components of a typical American classroom.

Activities:

1. Review: What social skills are important in American schools?
2. What is expected of children socially?
3. Questions and Comments



What Social Skills are Taught in American Schools?

Students are expected to develop positive social skills:

Relationship skills

Sharing

Cooperation

Responsible decision-making

Listening (following directions)

Manners

Self-management

Personal space

Eye contact

Collaborating

Patience

Empathy

Respecting boundaries

Positivity!



What is expected of a student?

Students should:

- Be respectful of the teacher and the other students
- Be friendly (and to make friends)
- Participate in classroom activities
- Be curious – ask questions



Students are Expected to Develop Positive Social Skills

When in the classroom, the cafeteria or on the playground, students interact with their peers and teachers.

- Students receive immediate feedback from their actions and words.
- Students learn the correct behavior.



In the Classroom

- Teaching styles are warm, caring and friendly (not strict)
- Classrooms are informal: students often sit at communal tables
- Students are allowed to get up and move around
- Creativity is encouraged



Extracurricular Activities – Outside the Classroom

American schools provide more than academics

- Further enhance social skills
 - Provide a “well-rounded” education
- Sports (soccer, tennis, swimming, football, water polo, baseball, basketball, etc.)
 - Theater
 - Music
 - Art
 - Clubs (computer, debate, chess, etc.)



American Schools: Do you know these terms?

Bullying

Field trips

Report cards

Gym class

Recess

Parent volunteers

After school activities

School social functions

Summer camps

Parent teacher conference

“It’s all about the zip code”



Parent Teacher Conferences

- A formal meeting between you and your child's teacher
- What do I say during the parent teacher conference?

Make a list of topics that you want to discuss with the teacher and that you think the teacher should know, such as your concerns:

- about the school
- your child's grades
- the child's home life
- any major changes in your family
- habits
- hobbies
- religious holidays
- or anything that is worrying your child.



QUESTIONS TO ASK DURING THE PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCE

- What subject does my student like most? Least?
- What can I do to help my student with subjects he finds difficult?
- How can I help my student study? Prepare for class? Improve his work?
- Is my student trying as hard as he can?
- Does my student participate in class discussions and activities?
- How well does my student get along with others?
- Has my student missed classes?
- Have you noticed changes in the way my student acts?

For example, have you noticed squinting, tiredness, or moodiness that might be a sign of physical or other problems?

- How are you measuring my student's progress? Through tests? Portfolios? Class participation?
- What kinds of tests do you give? What do the tests show about my student's progress?
- How does my student handle taking tests?

