



What Is My Child Learning?

Your child is learning that being assertive is the best way to ask for help at school. When you are assertive, you face the person you're talking to, stand up straight, use a calm, firm voice, and use respectful words.

Why Is This Important?

Being able to ask for help assertively helps children be better learners. When children don't understand something, it helps them continue to learn rather than being stuck.

Ask your child: **What is a good way to ask your teacher or an adult for help?** *Second Step* answer: **In an assertive way.**

Can you show me how it looks and sounds to ask for help assertively?

(Your child should be facing you, sitting or standing up straight, and using clear, calm, and respectful words, such as "Can you please help me?")

Be Assertive

- Face the person you're talking to.
- Keep your head up and shoulders back.
- Use a calm, firm voice.
- Use respectful words.

Practice at Home

Notice if your child is getting frustrated with a difficult or new task (such as cleaning a messy room, reading a book, or writing words). First, give your child time to try to figure it out alone. If your child is still stuck, remind him or her to ask you for help. For example:

I see that you are starting to feel frustrated trying to write those words. If you would like some help, you can say: "Excuse me. Can you please help me write these words?" Wait and let your child ask you assertively for help. Make sure that you give him or her the needed help soon after being asked.

Activity

Help your child practice asking for help at school. Pretend that you are a teacher. You are busy writing a note on your calendar. Your child needs help with a math problem. Before asking you for help, your child needs to wait until you have finished what you are doing. Then have your child practice saying these words to ask you for help:

Excuse me. Can you please help with this math problem? Check the steps that your child remembered to do:

- Waited until you finished what you were doing before asking for help.
- Faced you.
- Stood up straight.
- Used clear, calm, respectful words.

(CHILD'S NAME)	(DATE)	(ADULT'S SIGNATURE)
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