

First Day Fears

The first day of Nursery/kindergarten can be a scary time for some kids (and some moms and dads too!). Starting school is something that kids and parents have probably been thinking about all summer. Now, they walk in to a new room with all these new kids, and new grownups, and new "stuff" and maybe Mom looks a little teary-eyed that her "baby" is growing up so fast... well it's no wonder some kids suddenly cling to parents and cry! Here are a few tips for getting through those first few days.

- Try to act confident yourself. If you seem anxious and unsure about leaving your child at school, children pick up on that and start wondering if there really is something to worry about!
- If possible, plan on staying for 5 or 10 minutes the first day getting your child settled. A longer amount of time may make separation harder.
- When it is time for you to leave, make sure you say goodbye. Trying to "sneak out" when the child is busy and not looking, sometimes makes kids panic a few minutes later, and may make separation even more difficult the next day.
- Separation problems sometimes show up on the second or third day, just when you think you're getting off easy! It is also common for children to have problems when there are major changes in the home. Let me know if there is anything happening at your house that you think is important for us to know.
- Please remember that we really do understand how hard this can be. We know that you are entrusting us with a very precious gift, and we feel very honored that our school would be your child's first formal learning experience.
- We assure you we will communicate with you at the earliest, letting everyone know how it is going.

We are looking forward to a great year!