



IS YOUR CHILD PREPARED FOR SCHOOL

Spring/Summer 2009

FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER
817-871-2833

THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL YEARS

BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS
817-834-4711

The first years of schooling is reported as the most critical years of human development. School is the primary place where all individuals learn and acquire knowledge. It is a place that should nurture a sense of safety, acceptance of others, tolerance, and academic greatness.

Elementary school embodies an environment where children can play, laugh, and dream. Unfortunately, children are often faced with the social challenges of hunger, poverty, and abuse. As a parent, it is extremely important that children are **positioned to learn**.

One of the first principles of positioning children to learn is the understanding that during the first years of a child's educational years, they become sponges of life. Whatever we pour on them or expose them to, they will absorb.

Children exposed to adult vices, such as alcohol, drugs, and violence, often become vessels of those items. However, when children are exposed to positive values and beliefs, they too become vessels of those things.

Therefore, it is the responsibility of parents, school administrators, clergy, and community activists, to take full accountability for the few years children have as children.

Children are dream catchers. Gangs, drugs, and other delinquent behaviors are dream snatchers. Encourage your child to continue catching dreams.



THE PARENTING CENTER
817-332-6348

SAFE CITY COMMISSION
817-885-7774

LENA POPE HOME
817-255-2500

SANTA FE ADOLESCENT
817-492-4673

CRIME STOPPERS
817-469-8477

FWRPD GANG UNIT
817-871-8830

CHECKLIST !

- ☺ Good night's rest
- ☺ Breakfast
- ☺ Appropriate clothing
- ☺ Books, paper, pencil/pens
- ☺ Kisses and hugs
- ☺ Positive attitude
- ☺ Great spirit
- ☺ Belief in self

THE MIDDLE SCHOOL YEARS

Research suggest that by the time children reach middle school, their thoughts, actions, and behaviors are fully conditioned. In the state of Texas, children as young as 10 can be arrested for criminal offenses. Roughly

100,000 youth are confined in local and state detention centers across the country. When our children cannot succeed in school, they will become property of the state. It is imperative for parents to connect with teachers, teachers to con-

nect to students, and the entire community to simply connect. The mind may be a terrible thing to waste but it is also terrible to waste a mind.

