The beginning of the year is a combination of review and new material. It’s important to know if your child has learned key math and reading skills needed for success in their new grade. Use the Readiness Check to find out and get connected to videos and activities to support these skills at home.

Parents want the truth and a clear picture about how their child is progressing. Share what you’ve noticed about their learning and don’t be afraid to ask questions (even if you have to ask a few times). Let your child’s teacher know the best way to reach you and set a plan to be in regular touch throughout the year, not just at conferences.

Students take beginning of year ‘benchmark’ tests to help teachers know where they need support. Ask how your child’s grade level skills will be measured, how it will inform classroom instruction and what you can do at home. Create a plan with the teacher that focuses on key skills and maximizes learning time at home and school.

You have role-modeled incredible strengths for your child over the past couple of years. Ask other parents for ideas on learning at home and share what’s worked for you. Connect as a family by reading about topics that interest your child. Find math in everyday life. Take care of yourself and celebrate your family’s successes.

Parents and teachers agree we need teamwork and trust. Let’s build the relationship together.

1. Know your voice is needed.

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2. Get a gut check on progress.

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3. Team up on a simple plan.

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4. Lean into how your child is feeling.

The life skills you promote at home, such as problem-solving, hard work, and confidence, will help your child overcome hard moments. Ask your child how they feel about themselves, their friendships and the world around them. Find help online and in your community when it’s needed.

5. Remember, you are a learning hero!

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Go to BeaLearningHero.org for free and easy-to-use tools to help with math, reading, and life skills.