



教育局  
Education Bureau

# Tips for Parents on Happy Transition to Primary One

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# Why is the transition from kindergarten to primary school so important for children?

Discouraging child  
development if  
unsuccessful school  
transition

- dislike of school
- academic difficulties
- anti-social behavior
- mental health issues
- psycho-physiological problems

# Why is the transition to primary school a challenging task for children?

Learning  
environment

Teaching  
mode

Routine and  
self-care

Curriculum

Social  
relationships

# Before transition to primary one.....

Big campus and  
many extra-  
curricular activities

I can make lots of  
new friends

It means I am  
independent

I can write my  
own Handbook

I like recess



# After transition to primary one.....

I have to walk a lot and do a lot of homework. I have no time to play.

I suffer from being the youngest in school

Writing handbook everyday makes me tired

Doing things on my own makes me exhausted

Recess is fun but it is too short



# Adjustment difficulties during the transition from kindergarten to primary school

Social  
relationships

Emotions and  
feelings

Academic  
performance

Daily routine

# Indicators of smooth transition to primary one

Able to manage  
their emotions

Interact harmoniously  
with peers

Follow teachers'  
instructions

Interested in  
school activities

A sense of  
belonging to school



# Essential skills to develop before admission



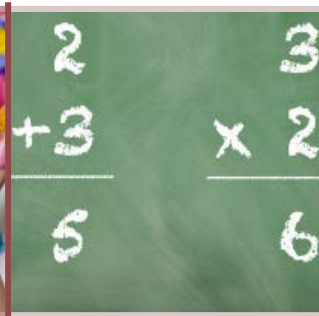
Physical



Social



Psycho-  
logical



Cognitive



Language



Learning  
approaches



# How can parents facilitate children's readiness for school?



Physical health



Social and emotional adjustment



Mental preparation



Cognitive abilities



Language skills



Positive learning attitudes

**Do attending primary one  
preparatory classes and  
interest classes help?**

# Psycho-social development

## Erikson

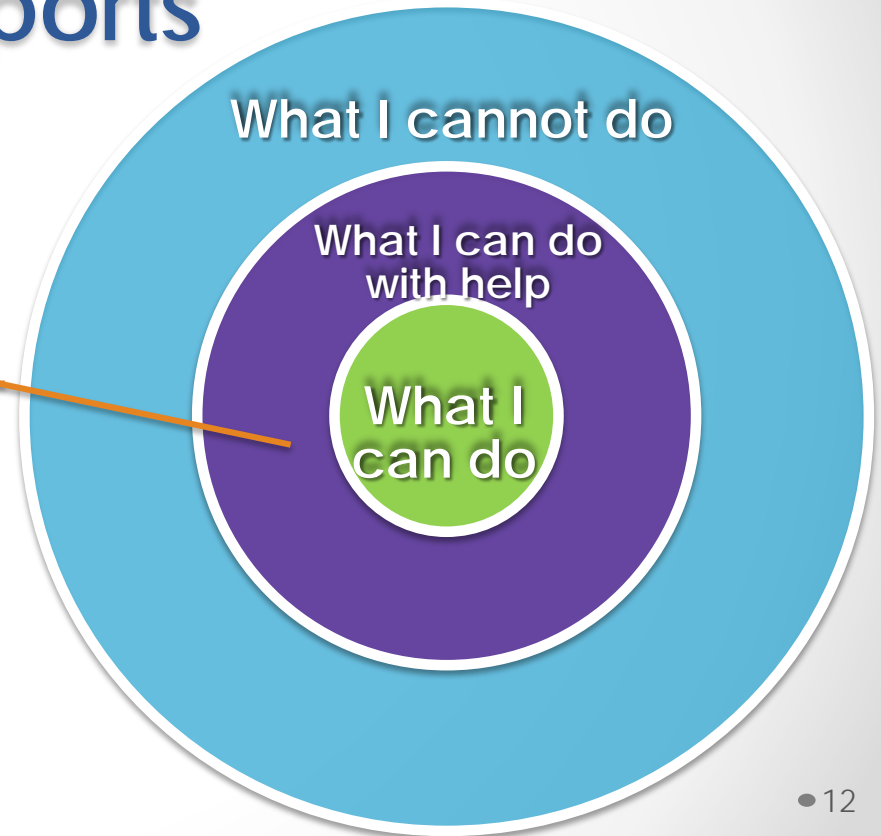
School age ( 6~12 years ) :  
Industry vs. Inferiority

- Children put effort on expressing themselves and wish to learn from adults with industry.
- If they fail, a sense of inferiority will be caused since they cannot cope with their own tasks and study.

# Provide cognitive, emotional, and autonomy supports

- Vygotsky

**Zone of proximal  
development**



# Set reasonable expectation to improve children's readiness for school

1. Understand child's development

2. Use **Scaffolding** to provide cognitive, emotional and autonomy support

3. Do not compare children with others

4. Be clear and consistent

5. Be positive and flexible

6. Praise little improvements and achievements

7. Accept child's limitations

8. Encourage child's self-development



# Recommended activities for parents and children



Parent-child  
discussion



Parent-child  
reading



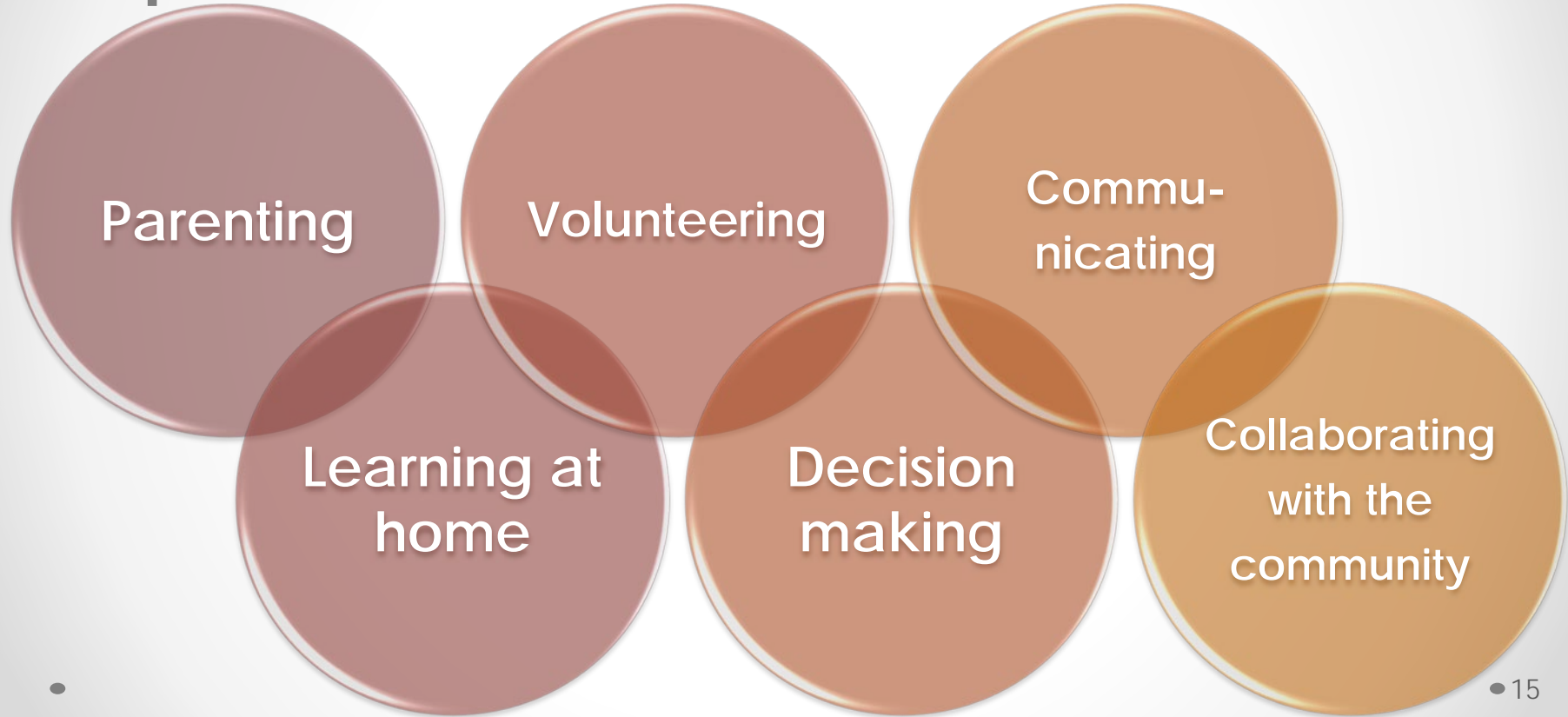
School visits



Parent-child  
games/ time

# Home-school Co-operation

## Epstein – Home-school collaboration





# Tips for Home-school Co-operation

Assist children to learn at home

Maintain close communication between families and school

Actively join school activities



# Case 1

## Avoiding school:

Sally, who has just started primary one, always complains about abdominal pain. She refuses to wake up to go to school, and often cries and yells with tantrum. She cannot focus on her breakfast and takes a long time to leave home. Thus she has to rush to school and she is almost late for school every day.



# Case 2



## Aggression:

Carol has been unhappy recently and disclosed to her mother that she could not make new friends in school. It was found that Carol was blamed by a new friend for not going to the washroom together, so Carol was told they were not friends anymore.

# Case 3



## Bullying:

Alice, who is a primary one student, is always bullied by two senior girls in school bus. They threw rubbish at Alice and sometimes teased about her hair style.

# Case 4

## Poor academic performance:

Peter has difficulty in catching up with the progress of his class. He always complains about not having enough time to study for dictations and examinations. Peter starts to show loss of interest in studying and his relationship with parents has also been negatively affected.



# References

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Thank you!

Q & A