

Additional Resources

In the [Special Education in New York State for Preschool and School-Age Students with Disabilities A Parent's Guide](#) you will find information regarding the laws, regulations and policies that drive the provision of special education programs and services. Having this information will help you to understand your rights, and the rights of your child, in the special education process.

In this [Guide for Parents of English Language Learners and Multilingual Learners in New York State](#) you will find information about how children are identified as ELLs, the kinds of programs available for ELLs, when students can exit ELL programs and services, and how you can obtain additional information, materials, and resources from local schools.

National PTA in partnership with the National Education Association produced several [Family Guides](#) preparing children for their new learning adventure as they transition to kindergarten and beyond in "Starting Off Kindergarten Right" and "Preparing Your Child for School." These guides are also available in Spanish.

[Special Education: From Pre-K to Graduation and Beyond \(National PTA\)](#)

Sesame Street produced "Sesame Family, Kindergarten Here We Come!" which includes a Sesame Street themed backpack Parent Guide with videos and hands-on materials to help guide parents with their transition discussions with children.

[Head Start's website](#) includes a video made about the transition to kindergarten from the perspective of children and an activity calendar for families.

[Count Down to Kindergarten](#) is a website with several resources for families including 10 Steps for a First Trip to School and What Makes a Good Kindergarten.

[Parent Orientation Video: English Language Learner Programs in New York State](#): This 12-minute whiteboard animation video explains how English Language Learners are identified and assessed in kindergarten and beyond and covers different program options. It also highlights the differences between English as a New Language and various Bilingual Education models. The video is available in Arabic, Bengali, English, French, Haitian Creole, Traditional Chinese, Simplified Chinese, Russian, Spanish, and Urdu.

Please reach out to the
Office of Early Learning with
additional questions about
transition or other
questions you may have
related to PreK-3rd grade.



518-474-5807



89 Washington Avenue
Albany, NY



OEL@nysed.gov