




SUCCESS IN SCHOOL BEGINS AT BIRTH

Children are born learning. Babies are learning through:

- Every sound they hear
- Every sight they see
- Every hug they feel
- Every game they play




Every child born in Chemung Co.
is visited by the hospital

SUCCESS IN SCHOOL BEGINS AT BIRTH

Through everyday moments:

- Speech and language develop
- An understanding of the world takes shape
- Love and trust grow
- The mind learns how to learn




FIVE KEY IDEAS FOR PARENTS

Understand and respond to your baby's needs.
Shows baby that you care and that she can trust you.

Take care of yourself so you can take care of your child.
It is important to have support from friends, family or community organizations.


Talk, sing and read to your child.
Sounds are the building blocks of speech and language.



FIVE KEY IDEAS FOR PARENTS

Create a predictable world for your child.
Routines give a sense that the world is a trustworthy place.

Provide a warm and loving environment.
Helping your child feel safe and secure is the key to encouraging growth and development.




WHAT IS A 'READY' CHILD?

To start school as able learners, children need certain skills:

- Following directions
- Understanding feelings
- Cooperating
- Communicating needs
- Hopping and skipping
- Using a pencil and scissors
- Recognizing shapes and colors
- Knowing numbers 1-10
- Distinguishing sounds and recognizing letters

Without these basic skills, children struggle to keep up with lessons.




WHAT HAPPENS TO UNPREPARED STUDENTS?

Unprepared students:

- Have difficulty learning
- Are less likely to advance successfully through school and graduate
- Are less likely to succeed in life

Services at school can help...

...but the chances for school and life success are far greater when students start out with strong learning abilities.




HOW ARE OUR CHILDREN FARING?

Too many local kindergartners start school without strong learning ability.

- 39% of incoming kindergartners in 2005 were not "ready" based on screenings.
- Coincidence?* About 40% of fourth-graders under-performed on standardized tests.

As a community, we must work together to give children a stronger start on their journey of learning.



If you want 1 year of prosperity, grow grain.

If you want 10 years of prosperity, grow trees.

If you want 100 years of

prosperity, grow people.

**WHAT IS THE SCHOOL
READINESS PROJECT?**

**A ground-breaking new early child
development system in Chemung
County**



**To increase opportunities for all adults
to help children age 0 - 5 develop a
strong basis for learning**

CE supported the 2012

**A GROUND-BREAKING
INITIATIVE**

**Chemung County is the first in NY to
support an initiative of this quality
and magnitude:**

Proven Model

Based on successful examples from across the U.S.

Comprehensive Approach

*Addressing school readiness through four crucial
services*


Results-focused

*Progress is monitored regularly by Columbia
Teachers' College*

WHAT WILL SRP ACCOMPLISH?

More of Chemung County's children will start school as able learners.

All SRP activities work together to cut in half the number of Chemung County Children who are unprepared for kindergarten.



"In every neighborhood, all across our country, there are good people insisting on a good start for the young, and doing something about it."


WORKING TOGETHER

SRP is the result of local child-centered organizations working together:

People
Experts from early care and education, primary education, health and human services


Volunteering time to design a cooperative way to offer services

Purpose
Advancing a single purpose - to prepare young children to be successful learners



PARTNERS


CIBS
 Chemung County Child Care Council
 The Community Foundation
 EOP/HeadStart
 Southern Tier Pediatrics
 Cornell University
 Parent Child Resource Center
 Family Reading Partnership
 Elmira Psychiatric Center
 Elmira City School District
 Chemung County Department of Human Services
 Community Volunteers
 St. Joseph's Hospital
 United Way of the Southern Tier



SRP SERVICES

SRP prepares young children for successful learning through four crucial services:

- Home visits from trusted nurses
- Excellent early education programs
- Parent learning opportunities
- Physical and behavioral health activities




SRP IS FOR EVERYONE

Available across the county:

- Elmira
- Elmira Heights
- Horsham
- All outlying towns and villages

Benefits all caregivers of one or more children age birth through 5:


- Every income level
- Every parent age group
- Every educational background



AT HOME

Parents can enhance their children's learning and growth through:

- Nurse Home Visiting**
By welcoming nurses into their home
- Online Resources at www.themumstoolkitaddress.com**
By finding tools, tips, information and SRP event schedules
- Parent Learning Offerings**
By attending workshops and family events that build on their strengths
- High-quality Early Education Programs**
By using high-quality programs that give their children special experiences to prepare them for learning
- Everyday Moments**
By finding opportunities to connect with their children every day




"Parents can plant magic in a child's mind through certain words spoken with some thrilling quality of voice, some uplift of the heart and spirit."

IN EARLY LEARNING SETTINGS

Early learning providers can achieve excellence in programming through:

- High Standards of Quality**
By understanding and working to achieve quality standards
- Professional Development**
By advancing personal education through increased local training
- Staff Recruitment and Retention**
By accessing affordable employee benefits through SRP
- By networking with other early ed providers (both family-based and center-based)**



IN THE HEART OF THE HUMAN SERVICE SYSTEM

Education, health and human service professionals can work together to support child success through:

- Service Referral and Delivery.**
By promptly referring and following up with children with identified or suspected needs.
- Speakers Bureau.**
By offering their time to raise awareness of links between school readiness, brain development, and pediatric health.
- Public Health Initiatives.**
By getting involved to improve physical and behavioral outcomes for children.

IN THE COMMUNITY

ALL Chemung County residents can support young children through:

- Online Resources at www.chemungchildreadiness.com**
By learning how best to nurture, encourage and guide the young children they meet.
- By understanding the role of non-parent adults in child success.**
By getting ideas for connecting with young children.

As a community, we can and must work together to give every child plenty of beneficial experiences so they can start kindergarten as able learners and go on to succeed in school and life.

"The greatness of the human personality begins at the hour of birth. From this almost mystic affirmation there comes what may seem a strange conclusion: that education must start from birth."
