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Parents Can Help Johnny Be Successful in School

By EDUCATION NEWS SERVICE

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How can parents help their children succeed in school? The California Association of School Administrators (CASA) has come up with answers based on suggestions of many teachers and parents on how the home and the school can work together to help children get more out of school.

Perhaps the most important single bit of advice, CASA said, is for parents to show a personal interest in learning. "You can help most by setting a good example. Be enthusiastic about education. Show by example that you consider what is taught at school important. Keep in mind that in the case of learning as well as other kinds of behavior, children tend to adopt the habits and values which their parents practice in daily living — not those to which they give mere lip service. Highlights of CASA also include:

- Keep in touch with the child's teacher. "Recognize that home-school teamwork

requires a steady exchange of facts and ideas."

- Encourage application of the skills learned at school in every-day home life.

- Provide learning resource material: dictionaries, encyclopedias, supplementary books, magazines, educational games.

- Provide enrichment activities: trips to places of interest; seeing special exhibits and displays, collecting stamps, coins, rocks, etc.; watching selected TV and radio programs. Keep in mind that the child's learning begins at home and can be made to continue there in many enriching ways after he enters school.

- Provide good working conditions for study. It should be free of distractions such as television, radio and unnecessary conversation. After each study session, the student's work area should be cleared so it will be ready for the next session.

- Encourage a study schedule. Begin by helping the child to develop a weekly time schedule for all his activities including sleep, personal grooming, meals, attending school, work, recreation and exercise, social activities, home study.

- Encourage home study. show interest in your child's assigned homework; if necessary, help him to understand assignments. Don't question the value of homework in front of the pupil. If you have questions about its value or purpose, discuss the matter with the teacher. And before the pupil takes his homework back to school, encourage him to proof read written work to insure correct spelling, correct word usage and neatness.

- Develop a realistic understanding of your child's ability in comparison with other children about the same age. To help you do this, find out what children are like at various ages, according to research studies. For this, get such books as "The Child from Five to Ten" and "Youth—the Years From Ten to Sixteen" by Gesell and Ilg from your local library. Also ask the teacher for information on how your child compares with other children of the same age.

Staff Sergeant Antone F. Zeller Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Antone F. Zeller Sr. of Torrance, has been graduated at Sheppard AFB, Tex., from the training course for accounting and finance supervisors.

Sergeant Zeller, a graduate of South High School in Denver, is being reassigned to Mountain Home AFB, Idaho, for duty.

300,000 Used Here

Books Still Top Tool Of Classroom Teacher

Technology may have filled the modern classroom with overhead projectors, filmstrips, programmed learning, reading accelerators, headphones, listening posts, viewers, transparencies, foreign language tapes, study prints, recordings, and films by the score. But, next to the teacher and parent, BOOKS remain one of the most important tools of learning.

So says Mrs. Lynn Shidler, curriculum assistant of educational materials for the Torrance Unified School District. Elementary school children in Torrance have access to nearly 300,000 books per year from the Educational Materials Building. This exceeds the American Library Association recommended school standard of 10 books per child. Because teachers continually check out new books from the central library, each student reads from 30 to 100 books per year. Some children have read as many as 300 volumes in the course of a year.

THIS IS IN addition to the basic state text books provided by the State Department of Education for all children in California. State texts provide minimum amounts of materials to implement required instruction. School

districts throughout the state supplement state-provided books with materials needed to enrich the program.

Torrance teachers checked out nearly half a million supplementary books and audio-visual items last year.

"Searching for the right book for the right child at the right time is the challenge of every teacher," says Mrs. Shidler. Teachers can be seen every day looking over lengthy lists as they trot their market carts through the stacks and scan the shelves for specific requests to fill the needs of specific students.

TEACHER requests range from "a horse story for Harry" to "something on the Gemini for Gerry," Mrs. Shidler explains. Their library lists run the gamut of the children's current interests.

"Technological advancement has not detracted from interest in the printed page," says Mrs. Shidler. "Instead, it has served to motivate it."

Following the showing of the film "Mary Poppins" commercially, requests for all of Travers books flooded the EMB. The television film of "Hans Brinker and the Silver Skates" brought similar results. Use of recordings, films and other audio-visual de-

vices also increase interest in reading—not only books considered literature, but those in science, history and geography as well, according to Mrs. Shidler.

"After all, a book is an audio-visual aid," she points

out. "History, geography, and books of information expand a child's horizons."

The "right book at the right time" is what Mrs. Shidler believes Emily Dickenson had in mind when she said "And this bequest of wings was but a book."

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Senior Citizens' Bus Trip To 'Sound of Music' Slated

The "Sound of Music" will be the destination of a bus trip sponsored by the Senior Citizen's Clubs of Torrance under the auspices of the Torrance Recreation Department.

Reservations for the trip, scheduled Friday, are being taken at the Joslyn Recreation Center, 3335 Torrance Blvd.

The bus will depart from Army PFC Daniel F. Harker, whose mother, Mrs. Roberta McKinnon, lives at 5033 E. Carson, participated in a four-week field training exercise at Hohenfels, Germany, ending Aug. 24.

Harker, who is with Company A, 1st Battalion of the 48th Infantry, underwent extensive training consisting of all types of range firing and day and night exercises.

The 23-year-old soldier entered the Army in 1959, completed basic training at Fort Ord and was last assigned at Fort Dix, N.J.

the Torrance Adult Center, 1318 Cravens Ave., at 12:30 p.m. and will return about 7 p.m.

Cost of the trip is \$3.50. All Senior Citizens are invited to attend.

The movie production of the Roger and Hammerstein musical stars Julie Andrews and Christopher Plummer. The tale is set in Salzburg, Austria, in the days shortly before the outbreak of World War II.

For further information and reservations, call 328-8362.

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... as seen in Family Weekly and on the EMMY AWARDS Sept 12!

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