

A Road Map to Kindergarten®

User's Information



A *Road Map to Kindergarten*® was designed to promote meaningful conversations between parents, educators, and community members about the importance of planning for and facilitating children's smooth transitions into kindergarten.

This publication was developed as a component of the Contra Costa Local Planning Council for Child Care and Development's (LPC) Parent Education Campaign, and it strives to:

- Provide a guide for parents to help promote successful kindergarten transitions for their children
- Increase parents' knowledge of early childhood developmental milestones and school readiness indicators
- Empower and inspire families to become active partners in education

Our vision is to generate enthusiasm and a sense of collective responsibility for education and to increase the awareness of the importance of family partnerships and parent involvement in promoting children's school readiness.

A Road Map to Kindergarten® is a parent education tool that is designed to be used interactively to enhance parent workshops, parent-teacher conferences or to be the focus of parent education events. It is not meant to be handed out or distributed without the accompanying active education component for parents.

The Contra Costa LPC has developed a training module for anyone who is interested in using *A Road Map to Kindergarten*® to help parents support their child's school readiness and transition to kindergarten. The training module is implemented in workshops that are run as facilitated discussions and that model the way in which *A Road Map to Kindergarten*® is intended to be presented to parents. The workshops are purposefully designed to invite conversation and to foster a sense of collaboration and partnership. Workshop participants review the components of *A Road Map to Kindergarten*® and develop their own action plans for how they will use it to help parents become active partners in their child's education. (See the reverse for an outline of the training module.)

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A Road Map to Kindergarten[®] **Training Module Outline**

Transition to Kindergarten: A Pathway to School Success and Lifelong Partnerships

Outcomes:

To ensure participants:

- Understand the importance of successful kindergarten transitions
- Understand the conceptual and delivery framework of *A Road Map to Kindergarten*[®]
- Become familiar with the steps outlined in *A Road Map to Kindergarten*[®]
- Reflect on ways in which *A Road Map to Kindergarten*[®] can be integrated into existing work within programs/agencies/schools
- Know how to access information and resources in support their work and building partnerships with parents

Workshop Outline

- I. Building community conversations
- II. Pathways to school success and building successful partnerships
 - a. The benefits of effective transitions
 - b. School-family partnerships: what do they look like?
 - c. Defining school readiness
- III. A walk through *A Road Map to Kindergarten*[®]
- IV. Integrating *A Road Map to Kindergarten*[®] into your program
 - a. Ideas for implementation
 - b. Determining next steps
 - c. Identifying additional resources
 - d. Forming a collaborative network
- V. Reflection