



How Can I Help My Child Succeed?

1. Get involved in your child's school life. Ask your child about their day, about schoolwork that is brought home, about their friends and teacher.
2. Communicate with your child's teacher. If you have any questions talk to your child's teacher.
3. Stay connected with the school. Attend parent meetings and other school events. Volunteer at the school when you are able.
4. Make learning fun. Learning is not limited to the classroom. Simple activities at home can help build your child's skills and confidence.

How Can A Teacher Teach More Than One Grade at a Time?

- Introduce a common topic then give each grade a different task or problem.
- Break students into groups to study different problems and then report back to class. The groups can be flexible, including students with varied interests and skills.
- In all classrooms, teachers employ a number of instructional strategies to address the needs of all students. On a daily basis, teachers work with large groups, small groups, and individual students.

Combined Grades

An Introduction



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What Is A Combined Classroom?

Combined classes group children from two or more consecutive grades in one classroom.

All classrooms include students with a range of skills and abilities. Combined grades are not new, they have always been a part of the school experience.

Smaller schools are sometimes challenged because of lower overall enrolment. In these cases, students may be placed in combined grades.

Research Says...

- * Students in combined grade classrooms achieve as well academically as those in single grade classrooms.
- * Whole class strategies such as explicit instructions, co-operative learning and subject integration, support improved learning in combined grade classrooms.
- * Students benefit from the spirit of co-operation and mutual help that exist in these settings.

How Will A Combined Class Affect My Child?

Research suggests that students in combined grade classes make equal or better gains in basic skills in mathematics and language when compared to an equivalent group of students in a single grade class.

Combined grade classes have been found to foster:

- * Social growth
- * Respect for others
- * Positive self concept
- * Independence
- * Increased motivation to learn
- * Sense of satisfaction with their achievements