



# Are You Ready to Learn?

**OBJECTIVE:** Read about the best ways to be ready to learn at school.

**STANDARDS:** Social Studies (NCSS): Individual development and identity; individuals, groups, and institutions

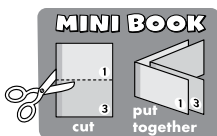
**“You’ll learn more at school if you work together and take turns.”**

## BEFORE READING

### Follow Directions

Help children put together their mini books.

Tell children that each month in *Scholastic News*, they will make their very own book! Point out the logo in the upper right corner of page 1:



Ask, “What does the picture show?” (*scissors cutting the pages in half*) Help children complete the first step. Then help them follow the second step, placing the middle pages inside the cover. Point out that children can use the page numbers to make sure the mini book is in the right order.

## DURING READING

### Respond to Interactive Text

Have children answer each question as you read.

Explain to children that good readers think about what they read. Sometimes, authors even ask questions to keep their readers thinking. In this book, children will get a chance to answer some questions themselves! As you read, pause to let children respond to each question. Ask them to keep their answers short; they will get a chance to explain in more detail after reading (see below).

## AFTER READING

### Compare and Contrast

See how children and animals are alike and different.

Have children open the book to the first spread. Ask, “How is the dogs’ breakfast like your breakfast?” (*We both eat in the morning; we both can eat from a bowl.*) “How is it different?” (*Dogs eat from a bowl on the floor; people eat at a table and use a spoon or fork.*) Continue, comparing and contrasting what the animals do with what children do.

## BEFORE REAGROUND

### Animal Antics

- The bear on page 1 is raising its paw, but it’s not in a classroom. Bears live in forests and woods.
- Usually, bears walk on four feet, like dogs and cats, but if they’re curious about something, they’ll stand up on two feet to see more!
- The puppies on page 2 need plenty of food to grow, so they could eat three to five more meals after breakfast. That’s a lot of food! When they grow up, they’ll eat just once or twice a day.
- The beaver on page 3 might be building a **lodge**, or home. They build their lodges in rivers and streams. Beavers use sticks, mud, stones, tree bark, and other supplies to make their homes.
- The frogs on page 6 are trying to warm up. Frogs need to soak up the sun to keep from freezing. You can sometimes see them taking a sunbath on mushrooms, logs, and rocks.
- The baby foxes, or **kits**, on page 8 are probably coming out of their den to play. They’ll chase each other, play fight, and pounce on things they find. That’s how they learn to hunt!

### Get Ready to Get Smart!

- It’s really hard to learn if you haven’t had a good night’s sleep. Get at least 10 hours of sleep a night, and you’ll start the school day off right.
- A healthy breakfast could be cereal, fruit, and milk. Candy and other sugary foods aren’t a good breakfast at all. In fact, they can make you sleepy in school.
- You’ll learn more at school if you work together and take turns. Why spend time fighting over a puzzle or a game? Share it, and you can spend that time playing.
- Why make noise when someone else is talking? Keep quiet, and you might learn something new!