Top 3 Tips to Help Kids Adjust to a New School

Transitions in life can be difficult for anyone, but for children in particular, it can be a confusing, intimidating, and scary time. Starting at a new school is a big life change that all kids have to endure at some point in their lives. Whether it is because they have moved to a new town or have just graduated to the next grade level and will be attending a completely new building with teachers, principals, students, and classrooms all of which the child is very unfamiliar with. While there are kids that take on this transition as an adventure, others may be more timid and hesitant to take a leap into the unknown. With these top three tips, you can help your child adjust to starting a new school and maybe even turn them into an excited explorer ready to seek out new adventures in their new environment.

Research

Before your child starts their new school year, do your homework! Research and find out as much as possible about the school including classes, activities, staff, and the layout. Find out who will be your child’s teacher, what class changes they will have, if any, where their locker will be, meet their new principal and counselor, who is the school mascot? Does the new school have any sports teams, clubs or organizations that your child might be interested in joining? Learn the layout of the school, for both you and your kid’s benefit. Before the first day, do a walk through with your child so you both know where everything is and your child does not feel like they are lost in a maze on their first day. The more prepared you both are, the less intimidating the new school will feel.

Get Involved

Both you and your child should try to get involved as much as
volunteers are an integral part of all that we do and as a nonprofit, we rely heavily on these giving people. Their dedicated efforts have a positive impact on the military community and go a long way in helping us meet our mission of “Making Military Life Easier”.

We’d be honored to include you as one of our volunteers this year. If you or your business is interested, please read on and learn more about possible opportunities. To all of our current volunteers, we offer our warmest “mahalo nui loa” for your selfless service!

Aloha,

Laurie Moore
Executive Director

Communicate

Communicating with your child is the best way to ease any fears or anxieties they may have about starting their new school. Your child may have some reservations they have yet to share with you. Sit down with your child and ask what worries them about the new school and offer possible solutions. Are they scared of being away from you for so long during the day? Suggest coming to eat lunch with them a few day for the first couple of weeks until they meet some new friends. If they are worried about not having any friends? Offer tips on how your child can make new friends and sharing interests with their classmates.

Every situation and child is different, but with these three tips, hopefully your child can wake up with excitement and ready to conquer their first big day and eager to come home to tell you all about their new friends and experiences they made.

*Article written by: Tawny Browning - Outreach Coordinator*

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Sewing for Those Who Serve
Volunteer Opportunity

We would like extend a special thank you to The Hawaiian Electric Companies for their generous donation in support of our Early Learning Readiness (ELR) program. Because of their contribution, we are able to continue to provide our military children with academic programs and services that help prepare them for future success.

Again, mahalo for your support. We could not continue our organization without sponsors like The Hawaiian Electric Companies.

Looking to volunteer for a good cause? ASYMCA is looking for assistance with our Operation Kid Comfort program that sews custom made quilts and pillowcases for children whose parents are currently deployed. These items are sewn with photos of the deployed parent which helps bring some comfort and a smile to each child while their loved one is away.

Operation Kid Comfort would love to gain more volunteers who
want to sew, learn how to sew, cut and piece together unique fabrics for custom designs, or gather and donate fabric to fashion these wonderful items. Volunteers wishing to contribute to this program can do so in the comfort of their own homes or may attend our monthly meetings to help assemble items while networking with an amazing group of people who love giving back to the families that serve.

If you are interested in volunteering your time for Operation Kid Comfort, please call 808-473-3398 or click below for more information.

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**Meet the Board**
Resse Liggett  
Vice Chair

Resse Liggett enjoyed a 26-year Air Force career as a pilot and staff officer at bases in the Northeast US, the Pentagon and Hawaii. As a pilot he developed a huge appreciation for the often super-efforts by the team of AF professionals it took to get his flights in the B-52 and FB-111 through successful missions. Now as a Rotarian and Board of Management member he enjoys extending important ASYMCA services to the families of all our Armed Service members.

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**Event Spotlights**

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**Did you Know?**

The second rainiest place on Earth is Mt. Waialeale on the island of Kauai, where the average rainfall is 450 inches per year.

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**Robotics Camp and Camp Hero 2016!**

This past June, the Armed Services YMCA held a Robotics Camp and Camp Hero at our Pearl Harbor and Kaneohe Bay branches. Our Star Wars themed robotics camp was a huge hit! Hawaii Robotics Academy spent one week with campers teaching them about the world of robotics and technology while each child spent time building their own robot. Camp ended with robot wars where campers battled each other’s robots. Robotics camp proves you can learn while having fun!

In Camp Hero, campers participated in self-esteem and independence building activities, including an "In Their Boots" day where the kids met with various military services members who informed campers about their jobs and let them experience what it takes to be in the military. Camp Hero ended with a fun water day where no camper went home dry!

Thank you to all the campers, staff, and volunteers who made both summer camps not only a success, but a memorable experience for everyone.
Parent Participation Preschool

For a young child, transitioning from home to school can be a difficult move for some children to undertake. Parent Participation Preschool helps military children ease into this new chapter of their lives by working alongside both their parent and the teacher. Armed Services YMCA of Honolulu is proud to provide this high quality affordable early education program.

This academic and themed based preschool is a three phased program for children ages three to five and is designed to introduce children to a structured learning environment. Students attend class twice a week for two to three hours developing their skills in language arts, math, science, and problem solving.

Schedule an assessment to find the class which provides the perfect academic and social fit for your child.

An Unforgettable Evening!

Father Daughter Dance

Pearl Harbor Branch

Schedule an assessment.

Your Gift Changes Lives

We need your philanthropic support to help our military
members and their families. Please consider a monetary donation to ASYMCA of Honolulu and show our military service members and their families how much they are appreciated.

Make a Donation

Join us for a fun filled evening where Dads can spin your daughters around the dance floor. Tickets for our 2016 Father Daughter Dance are on sale now! The night includes a buffet dinner, dancing, music provided by a DJ, games and prizes! Don't wait, tickets are limited. Get yours by stopping by our Pearl Harbor location today.

Contact and Location Information

Facebook  Website  Email

Share  Share  Share  Share