

BY JACK RYAN

So Your Child's Starting to School



Whether he faces this adventure eagerly or fearfully depends on what he's learned at home.

ONE DAY A CHILD'S world is made up of friendly faces, familiar surroundings, time-honored routines, and a comfortable sense of being wanted.

The next morning, he is in a foreign environment, surrounded by strangers, doing something he's never done before, far from all he's learned to rely on.

Nightmare? Horror movie? Neither—just the first day of school for a new pupil. Of course, not all young students stumble in terror at the first steps of school life, and the reason for their better adjustment may provide a lesson for parents of preschool tots.

Take one teacher's "pets" in the first grade of a large community school. They are "pets" only in that they are ready for the experiences and responsibilities of going to school, and their success actually reflects the success of their parents.

"For one thing," the teacher explains, "these parents took the trouble to attend a 'get-acquainted' meeting our school held

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