



STEP 1: YOUR EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE

STEP ONE in the school search process is to think back to your own time in school. Reflecting on your own educational experiences helps you remember things that might impact the decisions you make for your child's education. In short, it helps put your "gut reactions" about schools and education in context. Here are some questions to get you started.

What was your most positive learning experience?

What subject or class in school has had the biggest impact on your life, and why?

What classes in school did you find most engaging or interesting, and why?

What three teachers had the biggest, most positive impact on your life?

What were three of your accomplishments or achievements in school?

What are your best overall memories from school?

Is there anything you wish you learned—but didn't—in school?



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What school subjects did you find the most difficult?

What classes did you find least engaging or interesting, and why?

What are your worst overall memories from school?

What are your overall views on the quality of education in our country? In your state? In your community?

Do you still live in the community where you grew up? How do you think the schools you attended have changed over the years?

Before you move on to **STEP TWO**, think about your responses and remember that your child will not necessarily react the same way to specific environments, classes, instruction methods, and experiences that you did.