



**GET READY TO LEARN!  
(Children's Story/Parable)**

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Good morning, girls and boys! Who likes being in school? Raise your hand, if you like being in school. Some of you say, "Yes," and some of you say "No." Well, there are some things that I didn't like about being in school, either. I didn't like walking home from school in the rain or getting up really early to walk to school. Some boys and girls don't like having to wait for the school bus or missing recess when they have been a little too talkative. Some don't like math or history or geography, but learning new things about our planet, animals, or how to stay healthy is cool!

What other school do you go to? Yes, Sabbath School! Does anyone know why you come to Sabbath School? What do you learn in Sabbath School? *[Allow children to raise their hands and answer the two previous questions.]* Yes, we learn about God, Jesus, and the people whose stories are recorded in the Bible. We learn how to love each other, how to obey our parents, and how to be like Jesus. We also learn how to tell others about Jesus and how to get ready, so that we can be with Jesus when He returns.

So, that's two schools you go to. Can anyone think of another type of school? Raise your hand if you can think of another kind of school you can attend. *[Allow an opportunity for children to answer the question.]* Why, it's home school! If you homeschool, who are your teachers? For some of you it's your grandma. For some of you, it may be your auntie or your uncle. But for most of you it is your mom or dad.

Can you tell me what lessons you learn in homeschool? Certainly, you learn to be honest and obedient, to share with others, and to be fair when you play. You also learn to brush your teeth and take baths, and to eat your spinach, right?

Did you know that many animals also go to school? Well, they do! Can you guess who is their first teacher? Well, it's their mom! For many animals, the dad may be too busy hunting for food. So, the mom has to teach the babies how to choose what is good to eat and what is not good to eat, where to find water and really tasty treats, and where to hide from dangerous animals and hunters. Some animals teach their young how to make a certain sound to tell when they have found food.

The orangutan mom will not leave her baby for six or seven years, while she teaches about the things that are good to eat and where to find them. The African elephant babies have several females who also care for them as their mothers do and teach them how to feed, what

they can eat, and even how to stand up. Cheetah moms teach their young to move to another area every four days to keep their scent from becoming too strong in one area so that more dangerous animals can't find them.

School is whenever and wherever you learn. It can happen anytime and anywhere, and learning new things is great. Let's say a prayer of thanksgiving to God for those who care about us and teach us every day! [Say a short prayer or choose one or two children to pray and close with a few words.