## **5 EASY WAYS TO**

## Support Your Child's Mental Health

- 1 Help your child know they belong in the school community.
  - Talk about school often at home! Ask about schoolwork, other kids in class, and about their teacher. Celebrate what they are learning.
  - Support your child's participation in extracurricular activities (like sports or afterschool programs). Talk with them about what they want to try.
- 2 Support your child's relationship with their teacher.
  - · Ask your child which teachers or other adults at school they know.
  - Make sure the teacher or school counselor knows if your child feels lonely or unwelcome at school.
- 3 Experience family and school routines and traditions together.
  - Use household routines that promote structure, responsibility, and fun (Example: Singing a silly song while you take out the trash together).
  - Celebrate school traditions with your child (Example: Attending school concerts).
- 4 Support behaviors that build success and well-being.
  - Talk about healthy sleeping habits, like setting a regular bedtime.
  - Encourage activities that build focus and self-control, such as playing board games and following a daily schedule.
- 5 Continue to build good relationships at home.
  - Have fun together as a family by playing games, making food together, having a family movie night, etc.
  - Have simple, daily conversations with your child about school, friends, and more.

Can you believe all of these new things you are learning?

Who is the adult at school that is most special to you?

Let's make this a fun, family tradition.

Let's set ourselves up for a good day.

How are you feeling about



The Ohio Statewide Family Engagement Center is part of The Ohio State University's Center on Education and Training for Employment, a translational research center within the College of Education and Human Ecology.