

STRENGTHEN YOUR PARENT / CHILD BOND AS YOU TEACH

From the moment you knew your child was on the way, your brain was surely swimming with concerns and excitements. It's only natural to want the best for your child in every aspect you can afford them. And it's only natural to want to have fun with your child. Let's be honest, childhood is a simple time meant for learning and having fun ~ what better way to relive our youth than to do these things with and for our children? The experience will be enriching to both you and your child and will help nurture a bond that will extend into all aspects of your growing lives together.

You are your child's first educator, first role model, first disciplinarian, and first friend; how you manage those roles will have an enormous impact on your child's life and success. As you take the journey to guiding your child to his or her ultimate independence you too shall grow and learn.



[Research shows a tremendous difference in school success amongst children whose parents or family members read to them at an early age. We encourage you examine at least this one such piece of research by clicking here or on the photo.](#)

Teaching your child fundamentals such as reading, writing, and arithmetic can be done in the simplest ways throughout your daily routine. Exercises can be implemented in ways that become second nature and exude fun and interaction between you and your child. The simple act of speaking to your child (about anything) creates a bond unique to you and your child because no other voice, inflection, facial expression, or body language will ever be the same as yours. Taking the time to speak to children immediately begins their lifelong learning of social interaction, good manners, literacy, self-expression, and so much more.

When you interact with your child on any subject, you are teaching, you are sharing, and you are helping your child develop his or her level of enthusiasm for whatever that subject may be. If you sit with your child and read a book in an upbeat, character-like voice, using inflections such as: happy, sad, scared, or excited; you are not only paving the way to learning some of life's lessons, but also sharing a moment with your child that will leave an indelible impression on that young mind ~ an impression that tells your child you care enough to spend your time with him or her, that you enjoy reading which can trigger your child to take up a similar path, or simply share some laughs and good times.

The same rules of engagement apply to teaching and learning any subject; from going potty, to learning colors, to math, to riding a bike, to changing a tire on his or her first car ~ the possibilities are endless.

Whether the moment calls for proper pronunciation trying to say aluminum foil, counting the birds in the back yard, finding the red Skittles® in the bag, or learning a new language; your interaction and help will give your child the strength, confidence, and desire to excel. This one fact is undeniable: taking the time to actively participate in your child's learning and being a role model for good learning behaviors will not only teach your child the subject at hand, but will enrich your lives together and bring forth a stronger and more cooperative bond now and always.