

EASY WAYS YOU CAN SUPPORT YOUR CHILD'S GROWTH AT HOME

Helping your students excel academically doesn't only have to include workbooks and required homework! Try some of these tips and tricks to help your child excel with real-life essential skills.

Find your Way

When you're driving to nearby, frequented destinations, point out street signs and how they are arranged to show parallel and perpendicular streets. Point out landmarks and help create directional awareness.

Be sure your child knows their full address, including zip code.

Hard Questions

Never stop reading with your children! When you are reading to them or listening to them read to you, be sure to stop along the way and chat about what you're reading. Ask "Who, What, Where, When, Why" questions, but also ask them what they think about a character's actions, discuss cultural implications in books, and encourage them to consider different points of views and perspectives presented in the book.

Encouraging children to think deeply about what they're reading helps grow important comprehension and REFLECTION skills.

Are We There yet?

Instead of telling your child exactly how much longer you have until you reach a destination, talk through how speed limits work. Even young children can understand that if you are going about 60 miles per hour and there are 60 minutes in an hour, it will take about an hour to get somewhere 60 miles away. When you're on a highway, have them set a timer and see how long it takes to go between two mile marker signs.

Encourage children to read speed limit signs and green "miles to" signs.

Keep The Change

Whenever possible, let children pay cash for small transactions. When they receive their change, have them compare the amount the cashier gave them to the expected change amount on the receipt. Let them count the change they were given, then make sure that number matches the number on the receipt.

Make sure children can accurately determine how much money THEY HAVE.

Chaos Coordinator

If you're heading to a movie, the airport, or anywhere else that requires you to arrive at a certain time, involve your child in figuring out when you need to leave.

Elapsed time is a tricky skill. Including your child in these discussions gives them real life experience calculating it.

Music Makers

Books aren't your only tool for helping students work on their reading comprehension. When you're listening to music in the car, discuss specific song lyrics with your children. You can talk about how songs show cause and effect relationships, follow rhyming schemes, examples of similes and metaphors and more!

If your child loves a particular song, print out the lyrics and have them dissect it for parts of speech, figurative language, and more!