

10 Ways to Support a Gifted Learner at Home

Encourage a Growth Mindset

Provide praise to your Gifted child throughout their journey not just at the destination. Show them how to recognize their own emotions and abilities and how to navigate them throughout their experience. Using Growth Mindset vocabulary with "The Power of Yet" will help build confidence.

Allow Risk Taking

Engaging in activities outside of a child's comfort zone is important for your Gifted child. Provide opportunities to venture into areas of unknown territories that will help foster confidence both emotionally and physically.

Advocate

Advocate alongside your gifted child. Model for them what it looks like to problem solve situations both in and outside of the classroom. Give them opportunities to pose questions and inquire about their learning.

Stay Consistent

Gifted kids are quick to point out when rewards and incentives are not consistent. They will recognize this inconsistency and become easily frustrated when promises and expectations are not held up. Keep open communication to help prevent disappointment and distrust.

Help them Persevere

Focus on your Gifted child's strengths. Show them how to plan and appreciate who they are. Gifted children are passionate beings. Failure is a part of the learning process and teaching them how to handle this failure will be extremely beneficial.

Nurture Interests and Keep an Open Mind

Your Gifted child's goals may not align with yours. Strive to understand where your child is coming from and encourage their wild and zany ideas. Find ways to nurture their interests and allow them to show you their unique, outside of the box thinking with confidence.

Be Open-Minded

When you listen and give attention to your Gifted child, you are giving them the respect they are seeking. Keep assumptions at bay, adapt to change, and have a willingness to hear and consider new ideas.

Engage in real-world conversations

The world is a big-scary place. Check in with your Gifted child and ask them if they have questions about anything they are seeing or hearing in the news or media.

Maintain a Positive School Attitude

Your Gifted child will have a range of emotions and experiences throughout their school experience. It's important to listen and keep an open-mind when these experiences are shared. Encourage your child to understand all sides to the story and ask questions if they are seeking clarity about their test scores or assignments.

Foster Independence over Perfectionism

Perfectionism is common in Gifted kids. Allow your Gifted child to understand what it's ok to have high standards but equally important to accept mistakes with a willingness to learn and try again. Be a quiet voice in this process and allow them to take ownership of their work without constantly seeking approval.