

Elementary English

Monday, August 9, 2021

Reduce the effects of violent screen content

Short of pulling the plug on TV and other media, what can you do to reduce the impact of on-screen violence on your child? Start by setting limits on screen time. Help her choose what to watch or play in advance. That helps avoid exposure to "whatever's on." Then, get in the habit of watching programs or playing video games together. Talk with your child about what's real and what isn't.

<https://tpitip.com/?11hI1955>

Tuesday, August 10, 2021

Help your beginning reader have fun with letters

Hands-on activities let children use more than one sense to learn. To help your early reader learn letters, give him some pipe cleaners and have him bend them into letter shapes. You can also make letter puzzles on index cards. Write the capital and lowercase versions of a letter on a card. Repeat for several letters. Cut the cards in half in a curvy pattern, mix them up, and let your child match each capital letter with its lowercase mate.

<https://tpitip.com/?11hJ1955>

Wednesday, August 11, 2021

Start a reading chain reaction

Reading regularly over the summer is an important way to keep your child's reading skills from sliding. To motivate her to keep reading, try this fun way of keeping track of every book she finishes. Write the titles of the books on small strips of paper. Have your child make the strips into a paper chain. Set a goal to have the chain stretch around your child's room by the start of school in the fall!

<https://tpitip.com/?11hK1955>

Thursday, August 12, 2021

Buckle up for better conversation

Car time is perfect for talking one-on-one with your child. It's often more private, and no one can get up and leave. And when kids know parents will be looking at the road and not at them, they often share worries, fears, secrets and dreams. To turn car time into conversation time, ask your child, "What have you been thinking about lately?" Listen and let him know you care what he thinks.

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Friday, August 13, 2021

Ask specific questions about school

Talking about school is an important way to show your child that education matters. But if her usual answer to "Hi, honey! How was school today?" is "Fine" or a grunt, get more specific. Ask her to tell you about something good that happened. Ask about how she handled a challenge she faced. Find out what she's reading in class. Ask about her classmates. Share something about your own day, too.

<https://tpitip.com/?11hM1955>

Saturday, August 14, 2021

Create a student-friendly home

One of the most effective ways to support learning is also one of the easiest. Just make your home student-friendly. Start by encouraging your child to make organization a priority. Show that you care about what he is learning by establishing a regular study time. Model a relaxed attitude about the return to school, and reach out to the teacher if your child is struggling.

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Sunday, August 15, 2021

Help your child relate to history with a time line

To many elementary schoolers, George Washington, Abraham Lincoln and Cleopatra all lived in the same time period: the olden days before the children were born! To help your child get a better grasp of history, create a time line together. Unroll some shelf paper. Have your child write important dates from her life at the right end (modern history). Then help her add historical dates in the appropriate places to the left.

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