

GETTING KIDS MOTIVATED FOR SCHOOL

ASK QUESTIONS AND BE ENTHUSIASTIC

Getting your child motivated for school may be as simple as showing your interest in what they do during the day beyond what they learned in school. Asking your child questions about school, teachers, friends and activities may elicit responses that reveal enthusiasm about some aspect of going to school. Hearing you have an interest in what they have done during the day may be all the motivation your child needs. Also ask questions to find out what your child likes and dislikes about school.

GET THEM INVOLVED IN ACTIVITIES

Kids may find school boring simply because they haven't become involved with an activity they like. Most schools offer a variety of interesting groups and activities to get involved with. Talk to your kids to find out if they are interested in getting involved with the student newspaper, joining the lacrosse team or becoming part of a volunteer organization. Finding just one activity that gets your child excited may be all that's needed to get them jumping out of bed and ready for school in the morning.

TEACH THEM THE BENEFITS OF EDUCATION

There is no doubt that your kids know they need to complete their education. They just may not realize why. Take time to explain to your children the benefits of getting an education and how that will affect their future. Describe the different careers that will be available to them when they are educated versus when they are not, and the different salaries they can earn. A reality check can do wonders for motivation.



CELEBRATE ACHIEVEMENTS

Letting your child know you are proud of what they accomplish at school can be a huge motivator. Even if it is just completing a routine paper or finishing finals, reward your child for accomplishments, big or small. Treat them to a movie or ice cream, or give them a reprieve from chores for the week. These gestures help children realize that you are proud of their efforts.

SET REALISTIC GOALS FOR YOUR CHILD

Getting motivated can be difficult for children if the pressure on them to do well is too much. Your child will not be as interested in school if they know you expect them to get straight A's, read extra books and be the star player on the basketball team. While it is fine to set high standards for your child, the goals should be realistic.