

SEPTEMBER FROM PAGE 30

their father or mother before making a decision. This same type of teamwork is important between you and your child's teacher. There are even similarities in the classroom. Teachers always seek your support through agreement and cooperation as a team in their efforts made at school.

Consistency is one of the most important elements in the relationship with your children. A structured, consistent, predictable environment will provide children with a sense of confidence and security. Your children may not always agree with your actions, but at least they will know what your actions will be. So evaluate where you've been in the consistency arena and make improvements if needed. I hope that you have seen, in this article, how consistency at home supports the efforts of our teachers and actually mirrors what they do in their classrooms. Have a great school year!

AIN'T

*He was just a little boy,
On a week's first day.
Wandering home from Bible School,
And dawdling on the way.*

*He scuffed his shoes into the grass;
He even found a caterpillar
He found a fluffy milkweed pod
And blew out all the 'filler'*

A bird's nest in a tree overhead,

*So wisely placed up so high.
Was just another wonder,
That caught his eager eye.*

*A neighbor watched his zigzag course
And hailed him from the lawn;
Asked him where he'd been that day
And what was going on.*

*"I've been to Bible School,"
He said and turned a piece of sod,
He picked up a wiggly worm replying,
"I've learned a lot about God."*

*"M'm, very fine way," the neighbor said,
"for a boy to spend his time"
"If you'll tell me where God is,
I'll give you a brand new dime."*

*Quick as a flash the answer came!
Now were his accents faint.
"I'll give you a dollar, Mister,
If you can tell me where God ain't". ■*

Linda Swanson, retired Southwestern Elementary Principal. She earned her B.A. degree from Houghton College and M.S. in Early Childhood Education from Fredonia State. Mrs. Swanson is a lifelong resident of southwestern New York State. Her early teaching experience was at Randolph Elementary. She currently enjoys substitute teaching and volunteering at Z.E.A.L., an after school tutoring program at Zion Covenant church and also a volunteer for Love Inc.

6 Ways to Boost Your Child's Attitude Before the Bus Arrives

PLAN AHEAD

Do your children lag behind in the morning because they can't find matching socks or their homework? Start preparing the night before.

GET A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP

A good night's sleep can never be underestimated. Parents, this goes for you too.

RISE AND SHINE: PARENTS

Learn to embrace the morning. A slow start will give you more patience to deal with unexpected events that come your way.

RISE AND SHINE: KIDS

Children typically love music so crank up the stereo. Loud music CAN be good for the soul.

HUG THEM

Never let your child leave your home without some type of physical interaction with you.

TALK TO THEM

Use the extra time you saved by preparing ahead to talk to your children before they leave for school.

