

Teach Your Child to Stay on Task

Does your child have a hard time staying on task? Do they not listen as well as you wish? Do you find yourself telling your child to do something over and over again? You are not alone, but you have homework to do. Your child's brain needs to be trained to listen and do what is requested.

Safety is such an important factor with children. If a child does not listen to rules or does not have boundaries, they are going to have a hard time staying safe. Will your child walk safely with you in the parking lot? OR do they dart across the parking lot and you hope they do not get plowed down by a vehicle. It is a parent's job to teach their children boundaries and to listen. Some children are harder than others. So that means the parent has to work harder or smarter with their child to keep them safe.

Children learn throughout their lives. If a child cannot pay attention and listen, it will be impossible for them to learn. Your child could also upset their classrooms with their outbursts. Parents need to make their training for this fun and not boring. When you go to eat at McDonalds you will need to eat outside. Have your child play first. Tell them to come and ask them to eat 3 fries and take a drink. Let them play again. Call them back to take 2 more bites of their burger or nuggets, and 2 drinks. You get the idea, you are training them to listen to you. Make this a fun time as well. You can do this at home also.

A *Grandma's Table* is created when you put 5 items on a table. Make sure they are different from each other in color. For example, put a red hat, purple ball, yellow button, brown dinosaur, and a blue mitten on the table. When your child is busy, ask them to bring you the red hat. Thank them and tell them to go and play. Do this throughout an evening, and every time give them PRAISE for doing this. If they do not do this, tell them they need to use their "listening ears" and tell them again. Stay on task with your child. This is a process that must be repeated over and over again. Praise works wonders on children!

Play baseball inside. Decide in your living area where 1st base, 2nd base, 3rd base and Home Plate will be. Use your child's spelling words or ask vocabulary words to your child. They will travel to each base with a correct answer. When your child reaches Home Plate, you need to have a treat for them. It does not need to be large, but something your child really likes. This game will instill positive esteem into your child and it is fun to play as well.

Teach Your Child to Stay on Task

Take time to read to your child. Let your child snuggle up with you. Point at words and see if they can tell you the word. Be your child's cheerleader and make them proud of themselves! It is our job to raise children in a positive environment and make them know how great they are!

Have your child read books to you. Make a chart so they can see their success. When they have read 5 books let them know they will go for a frozen yogurt at Braum's, which is \$1.00. They can have a popsicle, go for a piggy-back ride, or a candy bar. The treat does not need to be candy or sweet, but kids love it. You can help your child act out their favorite books. Make sure you are a good listener too. Parents, it takes energy and crazy ideas to help your child. They are worth it, so get busy.

Have you ever thought how cooking with your child can teach math and language skills? Cooking uses recipes that you must read and listen to instructions. This is a fun activity and while you are doing this you are measuring and using new vocabulary words. Also, you must pay attention to detail. At the end of this activity, you get a delicious bonus.

Talking to children and listening to children is important. It not only improves your bond with your child, it encourages them to listen to you. It helps them to build self-esteem and form relationships. Listening and attention skills are vital in a child's development. This allows the child to function properly in society. It is important that your child becomes an active listener, which means he uses what he hears from you and others as part of the communication process. A child can make sense of and understand what another person is saying. Good listening skills make children more productive.

