

## OPTIONS

HELPING Kids Learn Both At Home And In School - Easily and Efficiently  
or

Active TEACHING Cannot MAKE Learning Happen

- 1) Cuddle, respond, chit-chat, play, show, answer questions, give, stimulate, demonstrate
- 2) Continue, as in the first two years, to be a homeschooler -- or unschooler!
- 3) Read aloud to - when THEY want to listen -- do choral reading when THEY want to read in unison. Above all - TRUST in their NEED to learn!
- 4) Play games which use numbers; use numbers in conversation.
- 5) Help them print when THEY want to print/write/type.
- 6) Expose to books, magazines, newspapers, libraries, museums, the world, and people
- 7) Rigidly control all electronic gadgets. The less TV the better, especially early on.
- 8) If they have to go to school, send them as late as you possibly can. Try to find one where the kids look happy. If yours doesn't like it, take 'em out.
- 9) If/when they go to school, turn the responsibility for learning and achievement over to them by NEVER asking them about homework but HELPING them if THEY ask; by NEVER reading their report card unless they offer it; by NEVER signing it after letting the principal know, and, except in an emergency, NEVER talking to the teacher unless child requests that you do so and, after some goofing off, perhaps, watch 95% raise their grades and continue confident the way they were before they went to school, not to mention the fact that school is the #1 cause of parent-child conflict -- in the average home.
- 10) Meanwhile, the school should:
  - a) NEVER ask a child a question if the adult already knows the answer, as at [www.OpenConnections.org](http://www.OpenConnections.org) and, at every level, use [www.InvitationalEducation.net](http://www.InvitationalEducation.net); i.e. Show me what you CAN do and then I, or another child, will HELP you do better, pretty much like it is in the real world.
  - b) Encourage lots of talk and cooperative learning as at [www.Edutopia.org](http://www.Edutopia.org) and [www.co-operation.org/pages/contact.HTML](http://www.co-operation.org/pages/contact.HTML).
  - c) After checking out [www.StopNationalStandards.org](http://www.StopNationalStandards.org) and those very-successful schools that have largely, or completely, abolished quizzing and testing, make sure that everybody knows about Finland who, with the highest test scores in the world, allows no child inside a school building before age six, and does nothing of an academic nature before age seven while in Switzerland, with the highest per capita income in the Western world, 77% leave school at age 14 to go to work or a training program.
  - d) In the classroom expose to INTERESTING and STIMULATING material like GOOD books, magazines, newspapers, art, music, exercise, sports, and talk while never forgetting that TEACHING cannot MAKE integrated learning happen and that, in the final analysis, everything we know we've actually taught ourselves.
  - e) NEVER ask a child to read outloud alone or work alone at the blackboard. Use choral reading and cooperative endeavors. Encourage/help them write letters to people of some importance to them when they're ready, able, and motivated.
  - f) Since laptops are of no educational value -- so far -- think about eliminating all electronic gadgets and cell phones, of course, but be aware that sophisticated online educational programs have been shown to be extremely effective.
  - g) Note the best-ever college program where the reward for questions, argument and good papers was to be excused from all examinations.
  - h) Think about the schools that have never TAUGHT reading; i.e. they read aloud to every class every day and then tell the kids to go teach themselves to read in the library, which 97% will do successfully while the dyslexic 3% struggle but 50 years later have been known to be highly competent.
  - i) Be aware that poor minority kids have learned rapidly and very well when, after eliminating all school material except pencils and paper, essentially all education was provided by the daily newspaper and a HELPING teacher who gave a standardized test. only on the last day.

Look into ESA's--Education Savings Accounts

<http://734.com1.ru>--the best high-school in the world with one new rule: i.e. you may go to playground any time you want to.