

How Can I Help My Gifted Child Succeed?

From The Ohio Association of Gifted Children:

- Spend Time Together Doing Enriching or Creative Activities: Read books, visit libraries or museums. Watch enriching television programs or videos. Attend cultural events. Have conversations about world issues on the news. Talk about what is happening at school and build on the activities provided. Daydream. Make up imaginary stories. Draw. Encourage expression in a variety of mediums.
- Avoid Overextending in Extracurricular Activities: Your child may have varying and vast interests and want to be involved in multiple activities. Help your child create realistic goals and schedules.
- Realize Your Child Is Not an Adult: If your child gets along well with adults, understands and contributes to adult conversation and uses an advanced vocabulary, others may expect more out of your child than is realistic or appropriate. Help them understand your child is “just a kid.”
- Avoid Comparing Your Child to Other Children: Your child is a special individual with diverse gifts and talents. Focus on developing those gifts and talents to the fullest potential instead of comparing him/her to others.
- Listen: Your child may have a lot of questions or concerns. Your child may want to discuss special plans, projects, interests, worries or dreams. Actively listen. Ask questions to enhance conversation. Take the time to find out about information in which your child is interested.
- Remind Your Child that Mistakes Are Acceptable: Mistakes are part of learning, growing and finding workable solutions. Help make sure your child does not equate making a mistake with failure as an individual by focusing on process rather than performance. Study famous people and discuss barriers and mistakes that led to their successes. Share