



Calling All Fathers

Fathers, male role models, and caregivers have unique and important roles with the children in their lives. All adult-child interactions, even unplanned ones, can benefit the child's development. How do you use the time you spend with your child to promote their learning and development?

Benefits for children who have fathers or father figures who are engaged in their development include:

- Better self-regulation
- Fewer challenging behaviors
- Better academic skills
- Longer attention spans

Observe what your child is interested in and join in.

Use a playful voice and gestures to get your child's attention.

Invite your child to do what you are doing.

Talk to your child about what they are doing.

Think of fun new ways to use your child's interests across routines.

Carve out special time for your child to use materials with your supervision that they don't always have access to.

Let your child know that you see their interests the same way they do.

Take extra time to help your child figure something out.

Listen until your child is finished telling you things.

Let your child know when they have been successful.

Fathers can have a big impact on their children no matter the routine. Try out some of these strategies to promote learning and participation across meaningful routines for you and your child!