

. . . ideas from
"Make Learning Fun" by Anita Diamant
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Ways to enrich your child's education through casual, everyday things:

1. Have family discussions at the dinnertable and elsewhere. Share ideas, thoughts, concerns, and what happened that day.
2. Read aloud to all ages. Select materials above the child's reading level; they can listen and understand just fine. Kids who are read to do better in school.
3. Nurture an interest in the natural world. Say, "Look at that!" or "I wonder why that is."
4. Turn math into a game to be played anywhere.
5. Review their art. By talking about it, you gently force your child to recognize why they made the choices they did.
6. Give reasons to write. The best writers are the most practiced writers. Some ideas are: pen pal, diary, phone message, reminders, and, letters.
7. Make your home a learning center. Maps on the wall, travel post cards, informative place mats, and culturally diverse music are some ideas.
8. Give specific praise. Self-esteem is a key ingredient for learning success, and communicating your pride and excitement about your child goes a long way toward building a sense of self-confidence and self-worth.
9. Set up homework hours. A regular quiet time for a child to do homework is crucial to school success.
10. Go out and play. Exercise not only strengthens the body, sharpens hand-eye coordination and teaches concentration and discipline; it's also a great way to share time, conversation, laughs, and fun.