

Learning: It's Not Just for School Anymore!

Triple P Parent Newsletter
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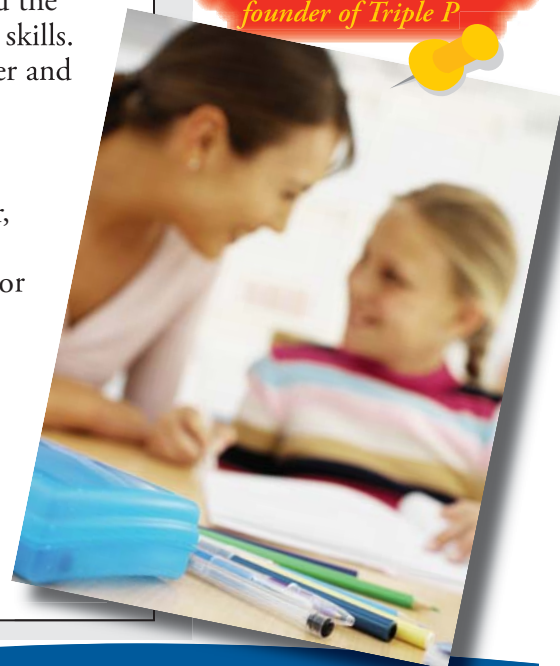
The beginning of school is a great time to think about the kind of learning environment we as parents can provide to our children in our homes, and how we can best support our children in school. Here are a few suggestions on creating a positive learning environment from the **Triple P – Positive Parenting Program**:

- ✔ **Spend time with your child.** Be available to listen when they approach you to talk about something.
- ✔ **Speak nicely.** Children learn how to talk to others by the way they are spoken to themselves. Speaking nicely to children lets them know that they're respected and loved.
- ✔ **Talk to your child often.** Ask your child about their day at school, and listen to them. Tell your children about your day. These conversations teach important speaking and listening skills, and help families be close.
- ✔ **Be affectionate.** This is one way to let your children know that they are loved and cared for.
- ✔ **Use "incidental teaching."** When your child approaches you to tell you something or to ask a question, stop and listen. This is a great time to help teach them something new. If they ask a question, you may not want to give them the answer right away. Instead, ask a question in return, or ask your child to think about where they might find the answer. This helps children develop speaking or problem solving skills. Make it fun, but if your child doesn't respond, provide the answer and wait for another opportunity.
- ✔ **Get involved in your child's school.** With the start of the new school year, you might look for ways to meet your child's teacher, or opportunities to come to the school and see your children's classrooms. Consider volunteering to help out in the classroom or for special events at school.
- ✔ **Check out what your child is learning.** You might wish to look over your child's homework or information from the school on a regular basis. Many schools also have ways for parents to find out about projects or homework assignments, such as classroom newsletters, homework hotlines, or information on school or classroom websites.



It's called positive parenting because it aims to make it easier for parents to develop a positive loving relationship with their children through encouragement, attention and good communication."

- Dr. Matthew Sanders, founder of Triple P



For parenting tips, seminar videos, a listing of local Triple P providers and games for kids of all ages, visit Triple P on the Web at <http://www.tpinfo.sc.edu>