

JEI

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5 Tips for Your Children for the New School Year

Well, it is that time of year again. Schools are starting in the South and West.

For those of you in the East, you still have a few weeks, but I am sure that the new school year is on your mind. This time of year can be a stressful time for many children and parents, especially if a new school is involved.

Making a big transition is tough for everybody, child or adult. Just think about your first day at a new job. Undoubtedly, the first day of school can be nerve-wrecking for many children. So here are a few tips that may help ease the transition during the early days of the new school year.

First, take a tour of the school. Seeing the school and becoming familiar with the layout will make it easier on the first day. You want to show your child the classroom, restrooms, playground, nurse's office, and more.

This is also a great way to build some excitement for the new school year.

Secondly, attend the back-to-school night. You can meet the new teacher and find out about the school policies, as well as what is happening at the school. The more involved and informed you are, the better your child will perform in school. If you have time, consider volunteering at the school.

Thirdly, get your child back to the regular school day routine. This may mean going to bed early in order to wake up early for school. Children need to sleep for longer hours than adults: approximately 9-11 hours depending on their age. Also, provide them with a healthy, nutritious breakfast every day.

Fourthly, get off to a running start by preparing your child for the school work.

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Nurturing Your Child to Success

By Jason Jones

Do you need to be smart to do well in school? That question is at the heart of one of the longest, most heated debates in history: nature vs. nurture. Is it the genes, passed down from our parents, or our life experiences that ultimately shapes our academic destiny?

Some things we undoubtedly get from our parents; you may have gotten your eye color from your mother and your hair color from your father. However, the way in which a child is exposed to the world can profoundly influence that child's interests and goals. For example, if a child is exposed to math and reading in a fun and engaging way at an early age, this child is more likely to grow up with a strong interest in these two core subjects.

While nature does play an important role in cognitive development, we can definitely nurture our children to succeed. If you recall the days when you were in school, it wasn't always the smartest kids who got the A.

Rather, it was the hard working kids who took home the best report cards. When learning, commitment can more than compensate for a lack of natural ability. To illustrate, a 'naturally smart' student may only need to study for two hours, whereas an average student may need to study for 3 hours; learning is simply a matter of putting in the required time to learn.

Then what is the best way to spark your child's academic interests? Follow these simple steps:

Expose – Many children lack, not ability, but the exposure necessary to cultivate a passion and interest in academic subjects. So, expose them to different activities, places and experiences; an outing to the planetarium could inspire a budding physicist.

Cultivate – Encourage your children to pursue their interests. If they are interested in music, find them an instrument. If it's sports that catches their eye, find a team. Even non-academic interests can do much to instill crucial skills such as dedication and focus.



Build Endurance - Let's face it, somewhere along the path to your children being concert violinists or doctors, they may want to quit. Help them to persevere through the toughest times by adding incentives and reigniting the spark that first inspired their interest. That may mean a trip to the symphony, or conversely, finding violin covers of current pop songs.

People are born with certain innate traits; however, intelligence is also the product of environment, discipline, and hard work. All children have the ability to learn, and it is our job to nurture their intellectual curiosity.

JEI Essay Contest 2015

JEI Essay Contest will be held Saturday, November 14, 2015!

Registration is available at participating JEI learning centers and on our site: jeilearning.com. The registration deadline is November 6.

- Grand Prize**
\$1,000 College Scholarship and Samsung Galaxy Tab
- 1st Place Prizes**
Samsung Galaxy Tab awarded to 6 students
- 2nd Place Prizes**
\$100 Barnes & Noble Gift Card
- 3rd Place Prizes**
\$50 Barnes & Noble Gift Card

**Free Gift Bags to all participants!
For Grades 2-7**

More information, including additional venues, will be available on our website soon.



Essay Contest Locations

- Southern California
- Northern California
- New Jersey (North)
- New Jersey (Central)
- New York

Canada:

- Toronto
- Vancouver

JEI
Learning Center

BRIEFS

Parents Are Distracted by Their Phones and Kids Have Noticed

According to a global study commissioned by AVG Technologies, 54% of children feel that their parents spend too much time on their phones. The study concludes that children feel they must compete for their parents' attention, even during activities such as playing outside, having a conversation and mealtimes. *(www.educationnews.org, 06/2015)*

What Will Your Child Lose Over Summer?

A recent survey conducted by Reading Is Fundamental and Macy's has revealed that over 90% of parents agree that children lose skills during the summer months, also known as the summer 'brain drain.' Those children who do fall behind during the summer months are rarely able to catch up. The research suggests that giving children access to quality books all year round is the best defense against the loss of literacy skills. *(www.educationnews.org, 06/2015)*

Too Much Homework for Primary School Students

New research published in the American Journal of Family Therapy indicates that primary school students are receiving too much homework: more than three times the recommended amount. The National Education Association (NEA) does not recommend any homework for kindergarten students. Rather, these students should be focused on building social skills and improving motor skills through play and extra-curricular activities. Despite this recommendation, kindergarteners are assigned an average of 25 minutes of homework each night. The NEA recommends no more than 10-20 minutes of nightly homework beginning in first grade and increasing by 10 minutes every year. Furthermore, over-assigning homework is not just an inconvenience but contributes to dangerously high levels of family stress and tension. *(www.thejournal.com, 08/2015)*

(5 Tips for Your Children for the New School Year continued from page 1)

Most children experience fairly substantial summer learning loss unless they have been to an academic summer camp. In order to remedy the loss, you can review some of the materials from the previous grade and also preview some of what they will learn in the coming year. The early days of a new term aren't as intensive, so you can still do this in the first few weeks of the school year. Also, get your child back on a reading schedule.

Finally, talk to your child about what happened during the day. What did they learn? Did they make new friends? Is the school work challenging or easy? Also, teach them how to plan and organize their tasks and help them with their homework. This is one of the best ways to spend quality time with your children as long as you can stay patient.

We all know children feel secure and confident when they know they are loved. So give them a lot of attention and love.

NEW TREND IN READING

The average K-12 student reads...

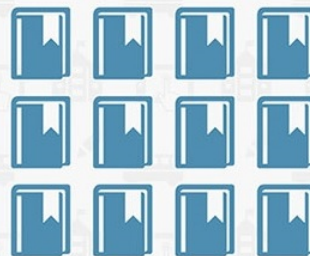
24 books

per year on a **mobile or tablet device**



15 books

per year in **print**



83% of schools will **allow mobile or tablet devices in the classroom** within the next 5 years



Students who study on mobile or tablet devices spend **40 minutes more per week** studying than those who don't

JEI Essay Contest 2015

JEI is proud to announce

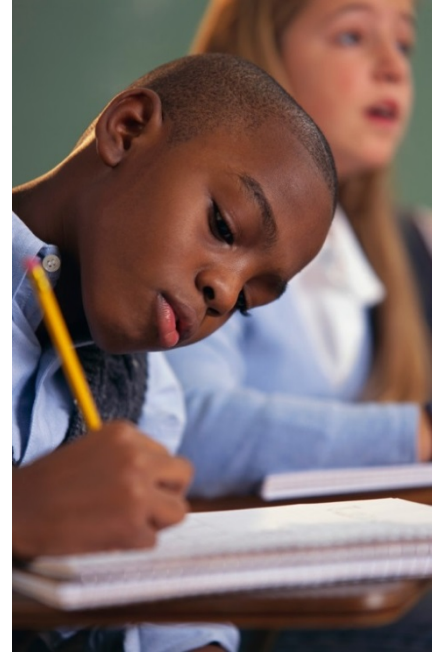
its third annual essay contest, held on Saturday, November 14, 2015. The contest will provide JEI members and non-members alike a chance to hone their essay-writing skills for standardized tests. The contest will be held in Northern and Southern California, Northern and Central New Jersey, New York, and Canada. Students will have one hour to write an essay about a given topic, which will be similar to those found on the SATs and/or college preparatory exams.

Students in lower grades will be given writing prompts and those in upper grades comparative essay topics.

Prizes include a \$1,000 College Scholarship, Samsung Galaxy Tabs, and Barnes & Noble gift cards. Free gift bags will be given out to all participants just for signing up and joining the event.

Please contact your local JEI Center for more details. Interested students should register by November 6, 2015. Spaces are limited for the contest, so be sure to sign up as soon as the registration opens!

For more information, please email lahq@jeilearning.com or visit us at www.jeilearning.com.



Upcoming JEI Learning Centers

- Dublin, CA**
- Germantown, MD**
- Old Bridge, NJ**
- Cinco Ranch, GA**
- San Diego, CA**
- Teaneck, NJ**
- Jericho, NY**
- Sugar Land, TX**

www.jeilearning.com

Headquarters

Los Angeles, CA
Englewood Cliffs, NJ

Centers

CA

Cerritos
Chico
Chula Vista
Cupertino
Dublin *Coming Soon*
Encinitas
East Fremont
Fullerton
Irvine
La Crescenta
LA Koreatown
LA Mid-Wilshire

Millbrae
Pleasanton
San Diego
San Ramon
Santa Monica *Coming Soon*
Saratoga
South San Jose
Union City
Valencia
GA
Cumming *New*
IL
Schaumburg
MA
Burlington
MD
North Bethesda
Gaithersburg
Germantown *Coming Soon*

NC
Cary
NJ
Bedminster
East Brunswick
North Brunswick
Clifton
Closter
Cresskill-Tenafly
Edison-Piscataway
North Edison
Franklin Park
Fort Lee
Glen Rock
Hasbrouck Heights
Hillsborough
Jersey City
Livingston
Manalapan

Marlboro
Aberdeen-Matawan
Medford
Mercerville
Montgomery
Old Bridge *Coming Soon*
Paramus
Princeton Junction
East Rutherford
Teaneck *Coming Soon*
Waldwick
Warren
Wayne
NY
Auburndale
Bayside
Bensonhurst
Bellmore
Floral Park

Flushing
Fresh Meadows
Gravesend
Great Neck
Herricks
Lynbrook
Merrick
Rego Park
Stony Brook
Sunset Park
Jericho *Coming Soon*
Williamsburg
PA
Allentown
Spring House
TX
Austin
Cinco Ranch *Coming Soon*
Katy-Richmond

Missouri City
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York
North York