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The Teachable Question

Guiding Parents How to Help Kids Think

By Dr. Connie Hebert

What is a teachable question?

It's a purposefully designed question that helps kids THINK better. It's a teacher.

It serves as a model for how we want kids to ask questions of themselves about any and all subjects.

When we ask lots of teachable questions daily, we help kids express themselves because they have to think and reflect on what we are asking them before they share!

Do we want all kids to read, write, think, and speak well?

Now there's a teachable question!

When we practice asking good questions that help kids think and express themselves, we get better at creating them spontaneously, no matter where we are with kids.

Here are a few examples of teachable questions that you can try with your kids:



IN THE MALL

"Why can't we run in the mall?"

"What would happen if we didn't pay for something at the store?"

"What does EXIT mean?"

"What would you do if you saw a person choking on their food in the food court?"

"What should mall owners do with birds that fly into the mall? How will they get them out?"

AT THE ZOO

"Do you think that monkeys get cold at night? What makes you think so?"

"Do you think the animals like having people take pictures of them all day? Why?"

"How would you change the zoo if you could?"

"What would make the zoo nicer for all the animals?"

"Which animal would you want to take home if you could?"



AT THE PLAYGROUND

"What can you do to go faster on the slide?"

"Where should you put your thumbs when you climb a ladder so you don't fall?"

"What can you do with your arms so you keep your balance on the balance beam or the bridge walk?"

"What should you do if a kid is sitting at the top of the slide and won't go down?"

"What would you say to kids who won't let you have a turn?"

"How could you help a kid who gets hurt at the playground?"

"How would you make the playground better for kids?"

Teachable Questions are everywhere.

CATCH THEM!



Dr. Connie Hebert

She is a nationally acclaimed speaker, author, and literacy consultant for parents and teachers around the world. Her newest book, The Teachable Minute: The Secret to Raising Smart & Appreciative Kids, helps parents become experts at teaching their kids something anytime, anywhere, FAST! For more information, please visit: www.theteachableminute.com