

# The ABC of Helping Your Child

## by Carole L. Riggs

- A. Accept your child, unconditionally.
- B. Believe in your child. Trust his or her ability.
- C. Communicate with your child. Share ideas
- D. Discuss things with your child
- E. Enjoy your child. Even parents enjoy their children. Children enjoy their parents.
- F. Find things of interest to do together.
- G. Give your child responsibility which can be handled. This can lead to a feeling of accomplishment.
- H. Help your child with words of encouragement.
- I. Impress upon your child the vision of what is all around.  
Talk about the things you see, hear, taste, feel and and smell.
- J. Join your child in fun activities.
- K. Keep from over-identifying with your child.  
Don't try to live your life again through your child.
- L. Listen to your child. He or she needs someone to share thoughts and ideas.
- M. Model behavior you want to see in your child.
- N. Name things for your child. Labels are important
- O. Observe the way your child goes about tasks. Provide help when needed.
- P. Pace your child. Help your child do one thing at a time and do well.
- Q. Question your child using question words such as who, what, where, when. Ask about stories or everyday things that happen.
- R. Read to your child everyday.
- S. Spend time with your child
- T. Take your child to the library on a regular basis.
- U. Understand that learning isn't always easy. Sometimes we all fail. We can learn from our mistakes
- V. Value your child's school and teachers. Your attitude will often be mirrored in your child.
- W. Write with your child. Encourage the youngster to write; even scribbles are important.
- Y. You are your child's most important teacher.
- Z. Zip it all up with love. Love gives zest to life.

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