

PARENTING TIPS FOR FATHERS

Fathers have a special place in children's lives. Your interest in children can make a significant difference. Caring fathers can help their children become well adjusted and equipped for success. Be proud of your responsibilities and your efforts. Children don't need perfect fathers; they just need caring and involved fathers.

SHOW THAT YOU CARE

- Give your children hugs and kisses often.
- Tell them how much they mean to you.
- Praise their efforts, especially if they don't succeed; teach them the importance of doing their best.

GIVE GUIDELINES FOR CONDUCT

- Give your children clear and consistent rules.
- Explain your rules.
- Use appropriate discipline to help children develop self-control.

COMMUNICATE WITH CARE

- Look directly at your children when they talk to you.
- Listen to your children when they come to you with a problem.
- Be honest with your children; admit your mistakes.

BECOME YOUR CHILDREN'S EDUCATOR

- Remember that you are your children's role model.
- Tell your children that they can come to you with any questions. (Otherwise they may receive inappropriate answers from other people.)
- Do household chores with your children.
- Encourage your children to think for themselves; support them as they start to make decisions.



Prevent Child Abuse Iowa
A chapter of Prevent Child Abuse America
Call 1-800-CHILDREN
www.pcaiowa.org

Adapted from Prevent Child Abuse America

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