

Positive Parenting



June, 2008

Multiple Intelligence and Learning Styles

Multiple Intelligence (MI) Theory recognizes that intelligence can come in many forms. MI Theory extends our conventional notions of the gifted child by outlining seven kinds of intelligence in any of which a child may excel: *linguistic, musical, logical/mathematical, visual/spatial, bodily/kinesthetic, intrapersonal and interpersonal.*



Each of these intelligences is briefly described based on MI Theory below:

Linguistic intelligence -- sensitivity to the meaning of words, grammar rules and the function of language as in writing an essay;

Musical intelligence -- ability to hear tones, rhythms and musical patterns, pitch and timbre, as in composing a symphony;

Logical / mathematical intelligence -- ability to see relationships between objects and solve problems, as in calculus and engineering;

Visual / Spatial intelligence -- ability to perceive and mimic objects in different forms or contexts, as in miming or impressionist painting;

Bodily / kinesthetic intelligence -- using the body, perceptual and motor systems in the brain to solve a problem, as in catching a ball;

Intrapersonal intelligence -- ability to understand and define inner feelings, as in poetry and therapy; and

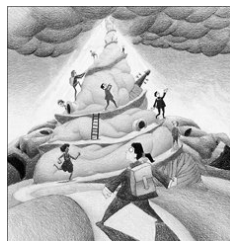
Interpersonal intelligence -- sensitivity to the actions, moods and feelings of others, as in teaching, parenting and politicking.

These, in turn, can affect how a child learns – every child has his or her own learning style.

Check this site for your child's multiple intelligence

<http://www.familyeducation.com/topic/front/0,1156,1-12410,00.html>

Does My Child Possess More Than One Learning Style?
Yes. The theory of multiple intelligence claims that human beings possess at least seven types of mental functioning or intelligence, therefore, every individual has the ability to use every learning style. However, everybody has one or two styles that work better for him or her when they learn.



Can I Use More Than One Learning Style?
Yes you can, but when your child is learning something new, for best results, it is recommended to approach the new skills through the learning style that is your child's strength. It is also important to use the other learning styles so kids can have a chance to develop other intelligences and learning styles as well.

You might find these sites useful:

<http://www.casacanada.com/howcan.html>

http://www.childdevelopmentinfo.com/learning/multiple_intelligences.htm

www.mitest.com/omitest.htm

<http://surfaquarium.com/mi/overview.htm>



Smarter **SUMMER** Vacation



Reading

Summer shouldn't mean taking a break from learning, especially reading. Studies show that most students experience a loss of reading skills over the summer months, but children who continue to read actually gain skills.

Efforts should be made during the summer to help children sustain reading skills, practice reading and read for enjoyment. Reading builds visualization, thinking and language abilities. Taking the time to read with your child can help you evaluate your child's reading skills. Parents should remember that children need free time in the summer to relax and enjoy the pleasures of childhood. So summer reading should be fun.

Check: http://www.cdli.ca/CITE/summer_reading_5.htm



Make the most of this summer learning

Remind your kids that every year is a new chance to do their best. No matter how they have struggled before, or fallen behind, each September presents a fresh beginning.

They can only improve, however, if they have the tools with which to work.

Math for the Fun of it

During summer vacations, on rainy days, while waiting at the doctor's office, or on a stroll through the neighborhood learning never ends. Your children can explore some

fascinating mathematical possibilities in the world around them every day. For instance, math can be found outdoors in nature: look for symmetry in leaves; count the number, sizes, and kinds of trees on your street; and look at the various shapes and patterns of blooming flowers. Children will be learning math and enjoying it too! The activities in this section can be done anytime and anywhere.

Check: <http://www.geosoc.org/schools/adult/math/mathforparents/funmath.html>



Less TV

Would you allow your child to spend summer vacation watching television every waking moment for two straight months? Of course not!

The shows kids watch add up, and summer's free time can mean even more time for the tube. But we don't want our kids to have a "dumber summer." That's when a student's school year gains are erased by months of mental idleness.

Studies show a decline in achievement when kids watch TV more than 10-15 hours per week. Students earn higher test scores when they read more and watch TV less. But few children can regulate themselves when it comes to TV-most spend as much time with TV in one day as they spend reading for fun in a week!

Reading builds your child's knowledge of new subjects. In addition, reading practice advances the brain's ability to recognize new words automatically, a key step toward faster reading.

Committing to a smarter summer won't cost you, but it will enrich your kids' vacation. Your child can shine this summer, while the TV screen stays dark.

You might find these sites useful:

http://www.cybertipline.com/en_US/publications/NC82.pdf

<http://www.aap.org/advocacy/releases/summertips.cfm>

Our Purpose

Understanding how stressful life is and living in a demanding community, we offer busy parents some effective tips to help your children succeed in school and life. On your behalf, we search for and provide you with the most practical ideas to promote academic success, effective parenting, a solid home-and-school partnership, healthy habits, and positive character traits.