

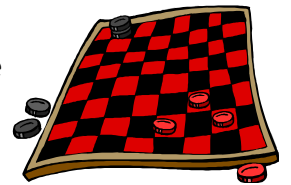
Quick tips for strengthening learning in the home:

For Younger Children:

- Find or create your own touch, push, pull tab books and puzzles. Toddlers love these! They keep younger children interested and create confidence.
- Play an observation game. Try "I spy" books or make up your own "I spy" game as you travel in the car, waiting at the Doctor Office or using a wordless book. This helps teach problem solving and decision making skills.

For Middle Years:

- Challenge your child to a board game or share your favorite game as a child- whether it is a dice game, card game or word game.
- Find out what your child is reading and read it!



As parents, we need to have more conversations with our children to enable them to think clearly and problem solve on their own. Having these conversations can be challenging for families who have little time together. Books or magazines can be the springboard to a lifetime of communication. Try reading a book on-line together at

<http://www.tumblebooks.com/tumblereadable/>

- With the start of a New Year, make a time capsule. Include hopes for the future, favorite family memories or traditions and current events in the news. Set a date to open it such as your child's 16th birthday or Grade 12 grad.

For Teens:

- Talk to your teen about their day. Communication will not only help strengthen your relationship but allow you to get to know your child in a new way. Use door openers like: "What do you think?" or "I'm interested in what you are saying."
- Cook a meal together. There are lots of learning opportunities as you read a recipe, measure ingredients or share family stories and cultural traditions around food.
- Take a class together that interests your teen. You never know, you might find out that you actually share some of the same interests.

