



A father is neither an anchor to hold us back, nor a sail to take us there, but a guiding light whose love shows us the way.

# Fathers as Educators

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One of our greatest strengths as a community is the strong **father-child bond** that links our families together. It is crucial to solidify the foundations of all of our family relationships in our children's early years of development. Research has confirmed that fathers' involvement in their young children's education has an immeasurable impact on their future success. The following are some of the wide ranging benefits:

- Young children with involved fathers display **enhanced social skills**, including:
  - Greater empathy
  - Higher self-esteem
  - More self-control and less impulsive behavior
- Children who grow up with involved fathers demonstrate highly developed **approaches to learning**, including:
  - Increased curiosity
  - Greater tolerance for stress and frustration
  - More willingness to try new things and solve problems
- Father involvement increases **cognitive capabilities** for young children:
  - Higher verbal skills
  - Higher cognitive competence
  - Children's critical thinking skills are more fully developed

The evidence is clear that a healthy father-child relationship can enable their children to exhibit healthier behavior, to learn more, and to be **better prepared for school**. Fathers who are involved in their children's education nurture their relationships as their children's guide for life.