How to Support the Talent Development of Students in Home and School Settings

Supportive adults play an important role when it comes to the talent development of students. When a parent doesn't know where to start, it can make assisting a child in exploring and discovering their passions difficult. Fortunately, talent development is a continuous process which gives all children the opportunity to find and develop their talent.

Talent development helps students to develop skills, and it also shifts their mindset. As children further develop their interests, it helps to build self-efficacy. When a student develops the belief that they can set and achieve personal goals students reap great benefits. This mindset has been shown to aid student resilience, which supports students in overcoming present and future obstacles.

Talent development is often facilitated through the support of adults within one’s school, home, or community. Research shows that children who develop great talent are typically introduced to their “field” between the ages of two and five. When it comes to talent introduction parents usually have personal involvement in the talent or notice and support their child’s interest.

Parents should also consider that some children are “multipotentialite”, these children have multiple talents. Parents may find it helpful to seek out support for these children, as many of them often struggle to fit into one box. By approaching talent development from a multipotentiality lens, parents give their children permission to discover and embrace new talents.

Parents may look for opportunities specific to their child’s talent domain. While talent instruction should challenge students, it most importantly should feel enjoyable. At home talent exploration is simple as utilizing books, magazines, or blogs to support a child’s thirst for knowledge. Within the school setting, curriculums that implement talent development have also been shown to be effective.

Talent exploration shouldn’t feel like a chore. Parents must remain committed to assisting their children in developing the skills needed to thrive. Parents who seek out additional opportunities for students, help them to build upon their talents. When parents provide children with this type of assistance, they are simultaneously aid in their children’s long-term success.

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Resources: