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You can help them learn, grow, and thrive. You can help them become a confident, capable, and successful person. You can help them become a person who is happy, healthy, and successful. You can help them become a person who is a genius, there are all kinds of smart. bodily-kinestheticverbal-linguisticmathematical-logicalmusicalvisual-spatialintrapersonalinterpersonalnaturalistexistentialAccording to Gardner, while every human has some level of these intelligences, most people have a dominant intelligence that most significantly impacts how they interact with other people and the world around them. As a result of their dominant intelligence, people learn best in different ways. Additionally, people excel in different areas. So, if you choose to believe Gardner, every baby is smart in their own way, and it's just up to you to identify and nurture based on where their intelligences lie.Even if you disagree with Gardner's theory, lots of research has shown the earliest years of a child's life are pivotal in determining how their brain develops (though it will keep developing even after that). When trying to encourage your child's one-sided development, consider that researchers who examined Einstein and other high achievers believe certain parenting behaviors may lead to more successful adults, encouraging a child's independence, but intervening when necessary.introducing new ideas and possibilities to a child (and teaching your child one to be persistent in finding solutions to problems)making very strategic parenting choices based on your child's unique needsIf you find yourself judging your child's intelligence against a friend's child or even your parents' memories of your childhood, using generalized milestone markers may be more helpful. You will want to keep in mind though that many things can impact whether or not a child meets each milestone at a certain time including:geneticsex of the baby[1]nurturgeneral health[2]adjusted birth date[3]Every child is a unique individual and may advance in some areas quicker or more slowly than others. If you have concerns about the timing of your child's developmental milestones, make sure to speak with their pediatrician. You don't need special training or tools to do this. Your baby just needs you and the world around them to learn! As you think about how to give your child their very best start, consider the following:Your baby's brain development starts while they are still in the womb. Proper nutrition and avoiding things like smoking and drug or alcohol use can help your child to reach their full potential. Regular healthcare during pregnancy can help to prevent complications and premature or preterm deliveries. An important part of nurturing your child's intelligence is to help create a balanced life for your child. This is because down-time and play-time are important for all children and for creativity. 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Make sure you listen carefully to what your child is saying, rather than lecturing to them.[6]3Explain the world to your child. Use every opportunity to explain how things work to your child. This is a critical part of how children learn to understand the world. Use their development over time as a way to introduce them to the world.When your child is young, between the ages of 2-4, explain basic and simple things.Gradually introduce more complex topics as your child gets older.Save topics like sex, budgeting, and the complexities of law for children near or over the age of 10.[7] Advertisement 1Enroll your child in the best school for their abilities. Having your child attend the best school possible is key in nurturing your child's intelligence. This is important because you want your child to be around peers and educators who are as committed to nurturing excellence as you and your child. In addition, you want your child to attend a school that has the resources to fund programs that will help your child stimulate their thirst for knowledge. Consider:Charter or magnet schools.Private schools.Schools with high ratings.Schools with special programs that will benefit your child, like those with well-developed STEM or art programs.[8]2Sign your child up for classes that will challenge him or her. While an intelligent child might succeed and prosper in any classroom, you should try to sign your child up for specific classes that will further challenge your child and help him or her expand his or her horizons. Specific classes that might nurture your child's success include:Non-conventional pre-kindergarten programs that promote creative growth.Gifted programs in elementary school or middle school.Honors classes in middle school and high school.Advanced Placement classes in high school.International Baccalaureate classes in high school.[9]3Communicate with your child's teachers and school administrators. Communicating with your child's teachers and administrators will help ensure that your child is getting the attention they need and are being challenged to a level that will nurture their intelligence.Keep an open dialogue with your child's teachers and always be courteous and respectful.Talk to your child's teachers about higher level work that your child might be able to do in place of other work.Talk to your child's teachers about readings and activities your child can do outside of school.4Find extracurricular activities that will stimulate your child's intelligence and thirst for knowledge. Outside of academics, extracurricular activities are a great way to expand your child's horizons at school. Extracurricular activities will help your child develop into a better-rounded person with a richer base of experiences to draw on. There are a number of activities you can consider:Athletics.Debate club, school newspaper, Model United Nations, and similar clubs.Chorus or band.[10]5Balance your child's academic life and kid-life. An important part of nurturing your child's intelligence is to help create a balanced life for your child. This is because down-time and play-time are important for all children and for creativity. Consider the following:A child who is overcommitted might be overstressed and develop anxiety.A child who is overcommitted might not be able to realize their potential in any one thing.A child who is overcommitted might lose interest and harbor resentment against an overbearing parent.Overcommitting your child might create undue stress on yourself and on your partner.[11] Advertisement Ask a Question Advertisement This article was co-authored by Wits End Parenting. Wits End Parenting is a parent-coaching practice based in Berkeley, California specializing in strong-willed, spirited children with impulsivity, emotional volatility, difficulty listening, defiance, and aggression. Wits End Parenting's counselors incorporate positive discipline that is tailored to each child's temperament while also providing long-term results, freeing parents from the need to continually re-invent their discipline strategies. This article has been viewed 74,921 times. Co-authors: 22 Updated: May 29, 2025 Views:74,921 Categories: Nurturing Talent PrintSend fan mail to authors Thanks to all authors for creating a page that has been read 74,921 times.

How to make a smart child. How to make your child smarter. How to make a child very intelligent. How to make a child intelligent in school. How to make a kid smarter. How to create an intelligent child. How to make a child become intelligent.