

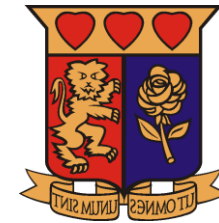


TRANSITION TO MIDDLE SCHOOL



Professor David Isaacs

Character Building



	Up to 7 years	From 8 to 12 years	From 13 to 15 years	From 16 to 18 years
Predominant Cardinal Virtue	Justice	Fortitude	Temperance	Prudence
Key Theological Virtue		Charity	Faith	Hope
Key Human Virtues	Obedience Sincerity Orderliness	Fortitude Perseverance Industriousness Patience Responsibility Justice Generosity	Modesty Moderation Sociability Friendship Respect-For- Others Simplicity Patriotism	Prudence Flexibility Understanding Loyalty Audacity Humility Optimism
Result	Happiness and human maturity			

Developmental Milestones



- Your child's growing independence from the family and interest in friends might be obvious by now.
- Healthy friendships are very important to your child's development, but **peer pressure** can become strong during this time.





- Children who feel good about themselves are more able to resist negative peer pressure and make better choices for themselves.
- This is an important time for children to gain a sense of responsibility along with their growing independence.
- Another big change children need to prepare for during this time is starting middle school.



CAUTION
PEER
PRESSURE

Emotional/Social Changes



Children in this age group might:

- Start to form stronger, more complex friendships and peer relationships. It becomes more emotionally important to have friends.
- Experience more peer pressure.





- Become more aware of his body as puberty approaches.
- Body image and eating problems sometimes start around this age.



Thinking and Learning



Children in this age group might:

- Face more academic challenges at school.
- Become more independent from the family.
- Begin to see the point of view of others more clearly.
- Have an increased attention span.



Positive Parenting Tips



Following are some things you, as a parent, can do to help your child during this time:

- **Spend time** with your child. Talk with him about his *friends*, his *accomplishments*, and what *challenges* he will face.
- Be **involved** with your child's life.
- Go to **school events**; meet your child's teachers.



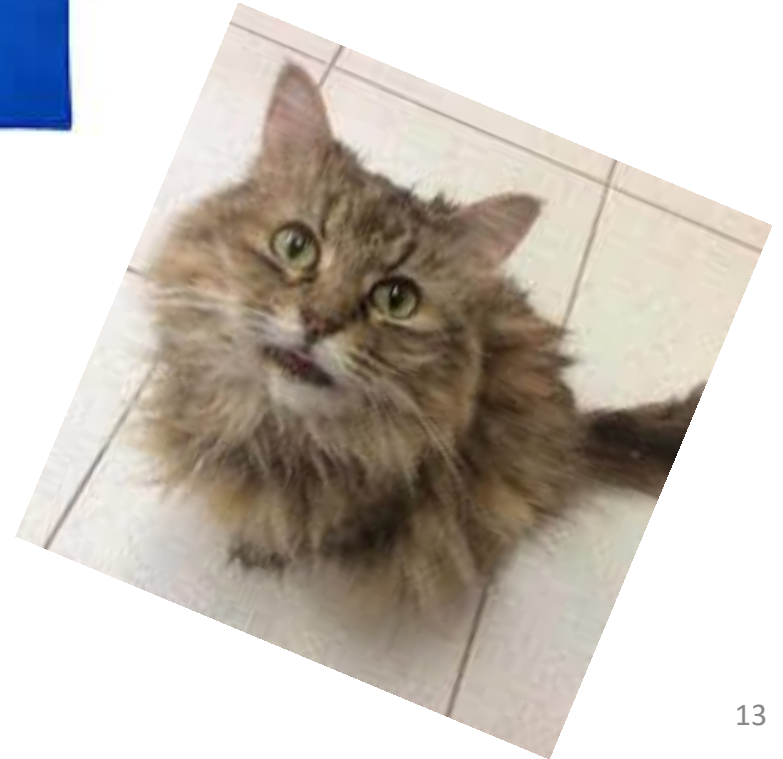
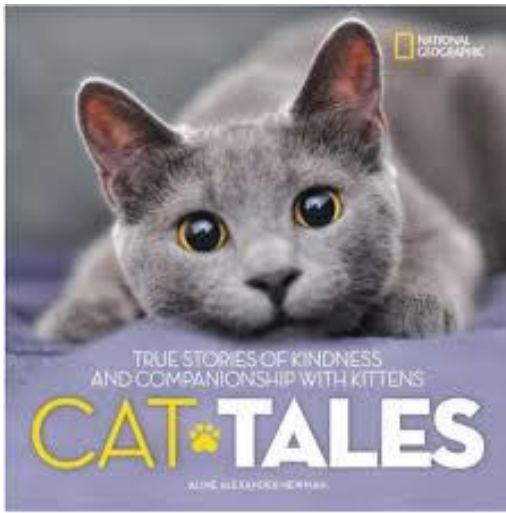
- Encourage your child to join school or church groups, such as a sports team, or to be a volunteer for a charity.
- Help your child develop his own sense of right and wrong.





- Talk with him about risky things friends might pressure him to do, like smoking or dangerous physical dares.
- Help your child develop a sense of responsibility—involve your child in household tasks like cleaning and cooking.
- Talk with your child about saving and spending money wisely.

WE NEED TO CARE
LESS ABOUT WHETHER
OUR CHILDREN ARE
ACADEMICALLY GIFTED
& MORE ABOUT WHETHER
THEY SIT WITH
THE LONELY KID IN THE CAFETERIA.





- Meet the families of your child's friends.
- Talk with your child about respecting others. Encourage him to help people in need.
- Talk with him about what to do when others are not kind or are disrespectful.
- Help your child **set his own goals**. Encourage him to think about skills and abilities he would like to have and about how to develop them.



- Make clear rules and stick to them.
- Talk with your child about what you expect from his (behavior) when no adults are present.
- If you provide reasons for rules, it will help him to know what to do in most situations.



- Use **discipline** to guide and protect your child, instead of **punishment** to make him feel badly about himself.
- When using praise (**encourage don't praise**), help your child think about his own accomplishments.



CONFESSIONS OF A
BAD TEACHER



Q₁₀ U₁ I₁ T₁



- Encourage your child to **read** every day.
- Talk with him about his **SCHOOL WORK & homework**.
- Teach him to make a practical **timetable**.
- Teach him to **STUDY**, using an actual **study method**.

IT IS NOT WHAT YOU DO
FOR YOUR CHILDREN,
**but what you have taught
them to do for themselves**
THAT WILL MAKE THEM
SUCCESSFUL HUMAN BEINGS.

— ANN LANDERS



Consult/determine

- How to ensure that homework is done
- Revision strategies
- Need for Remedial classes/tuition (topics to be covered)
- Need for Supplementary materials



- Set **targets** for each subject with the boy
- The mark the boy should work towards
- What he needs to do to get the mark: small tasks every day/week
- What help he needs to achieve the targets
- What he needs to **give up** to achieve his targets



- As we help the boy:
- Don't go for a "quick fix"
- Correct with facts not opinions
- Opinion "You are very lazy these days...."
- Fact "You woke up at 10 o'clock last Saturday and only studied for 20 minutes"



- Don't dwell too much on the **future**: he may never see it. Deal with the **“now”**
- Be consistent. He has a right to your acting in a predictable manner
- Invest **time** on this project!



- Be affectionate and honest with your child, and do things together as a family.
- **PRAY FOR, AND PRAY WITH YOUR SON**

GOOD LUCK



THANK YOU