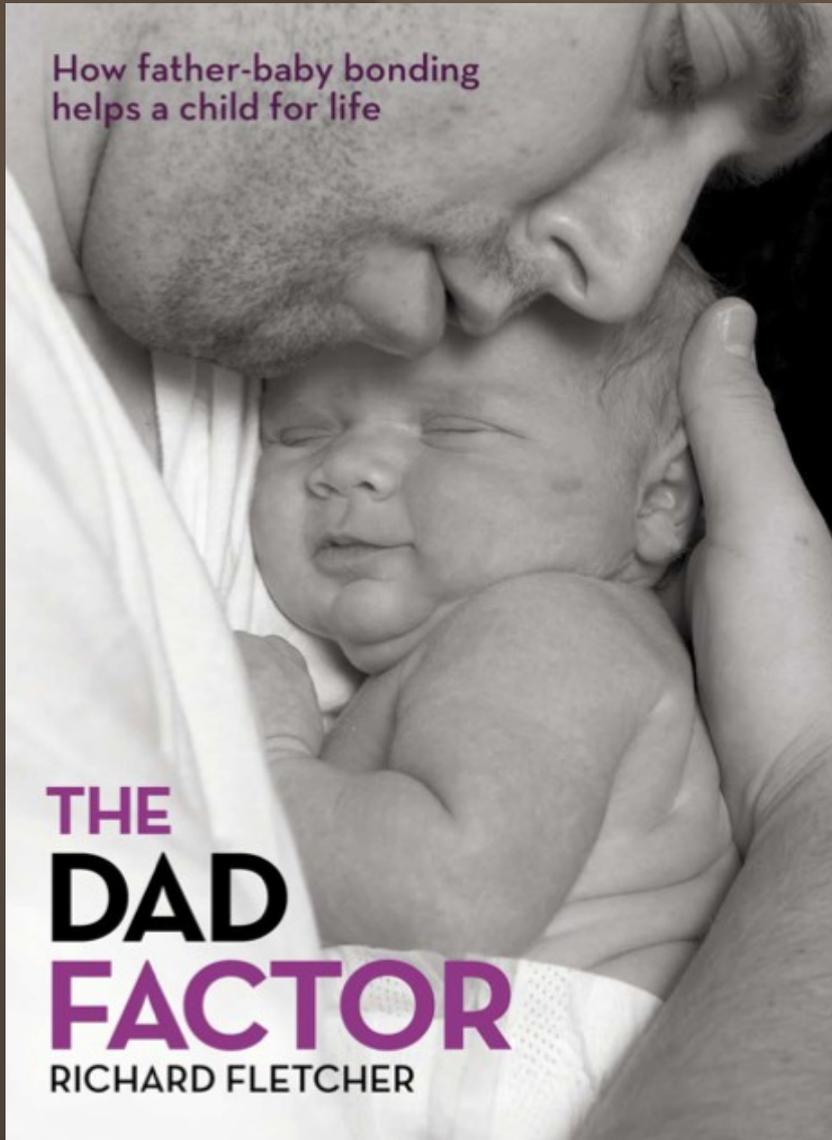


Champion Dads – Helping Men be better dads

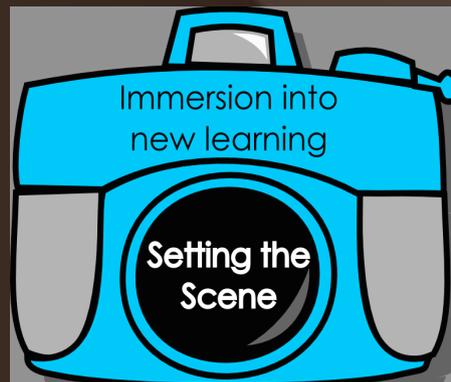


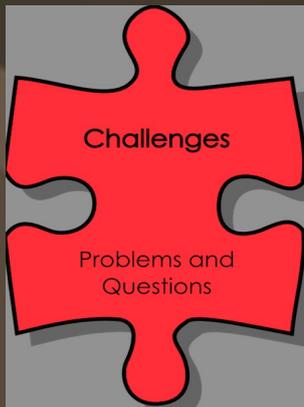
Whilst you are waiting,
a question to ponder below.

WHO WOULD PLAY
YOUR DAD
IN THE
MOVIE OF YOUR LIFE?

Setting the Scene - Our aims

- Enhance child development and improve academic progress.
- Reduce school adjustment problems.
- Reduce alcohol, tobacco and drug use.
- Increase physical activity and better health outcomes.
- Increase social responsibility, social maturity, resilience and life skills.
- Strengthen father and child and father and wife/partner relationships.





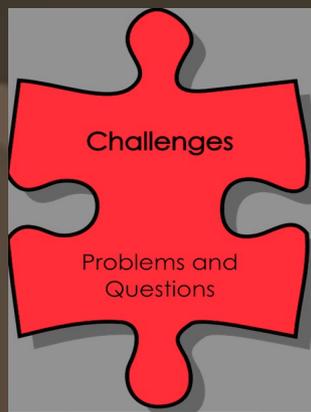
Research

A father's involvement helps:

- enhanced cognitive development during infancy
- better than average social functioning in childhood
- higher educational attainment
- decreased likelihood behaviour problems in adolescence
- lower rates of delinquency and criminal behaviour
- reduced likelihood of regular smoking

- *Sarkadi, A., Kristiansson, R., Oberklaid, F., & Bremberg, S. (2008). Fathers' involvement and children's developmental outcomes: a systematic review of longitudinal studies. Acta Paediatrica, 97(2), 153-158.*

DAD
A son's
first Hero.
A daughter's
first Love.



Research 2

"BEING THERE may be the foundation of all other good parenting."

Father involvement is related to positive cognitive, developmental, and socio-behavioral child outcomes, such as improved weight gain in preterm infants, improved breastfeeding rates, higher receptive language skills, and higher academic achievement. *Garfield, C. F., & Isacco, A. (2006). Fathers and the well-child visit, Pediatrics, 117, 637-645.*

Father involvement seems to reduce the occurrence of behavioral problems in boys and psychological problems in young women, as well as enhancing cognitive development, while decreasing delinquency and economic disadvantage in low-income families. *Sarkadi, A., Kristiansson, R., Oberklaid, F., & Bremberg, S. (2008). Fathers' involvement and children's developmental outcomes: a systematic review of longitudinal studies. Acta Pædiatrica, 97, 153-158*



Research 3

More Findings

Reduced risk of engagement in multiple risky behaviors, particularly in boys.

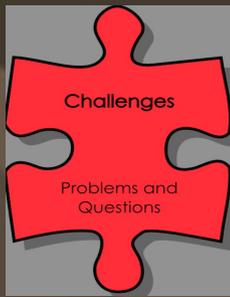
Research provides evidence that fathers can encourage the development of their children's literacy skills.

Children whose fathers are stable and involved are better off on almost every cognitive, social, and emotional measure developed by researchers.

Children in father-absent homes are almost four times more likely to be poor. 12% compared to 44%

Children who spend little time with their fathers are more likely to be diagnosed with asthma and experience an asthma-related emergency even after taking into account demographic and socio-economic conditions

Moreover, students attending schools with a high proportion of children of single parents are also at risk of delinquent behaviours.



Research 4



The analysis indicates that father absence can have a detrimental effect on adolescents' lifestyle choices, for example, boys with substance abuse and girls with relationship choices.

Poor parental bond with one's father was highly predictive of depression, a well-known predictor of alcohol abuse and related problems for both females and males.

The results showed that only fathers' parenting behaviors and styles were associated with increased risks of child overweight and obesity. Mothers' parenting behaviors and styles were not associated with a higher likelihood of children being in a higher BMI category.

Father involvement in schools is associated with the higher likelihood of a student getting mostly A's. This was true for fathers in biological parent families, for stepfathers, and for fathers heading single-parent families.

Girls v Boys

- It's not that my standards are too high, it's just that my daddy set an amazing example for how a man should treat me.



your  cards
someecards.com

- Love them and your wife/partner
- Health and fitness
- Memory Maker
- Be at her events/presence
- Self-esteem
- Mechanical v emotional, hard wired, motor skills, imitators, talkers.

When you're young, you think your dad is Superman. Then you grow up, and you realize he's just a regular guy who wears a cape.

DAVE ATTELL

Competition/performance

Failure

Lead

Presence, love, affirmation

Actions and consequences

Education

Many studies have confirmed that family background and other non-school factors are more influential than schools in determining academic outcomes.

The key to facilitating positive change in a child's academic attainment is the engagement of parents in learning outcomes in the home:

Higher grades and test scores,

□ University Entry

Beyond educational achievement, father engagement is associated with various indicators of student development. These include:

□ more regular school attendance,

□ better social skills,

□ improved behaviour,

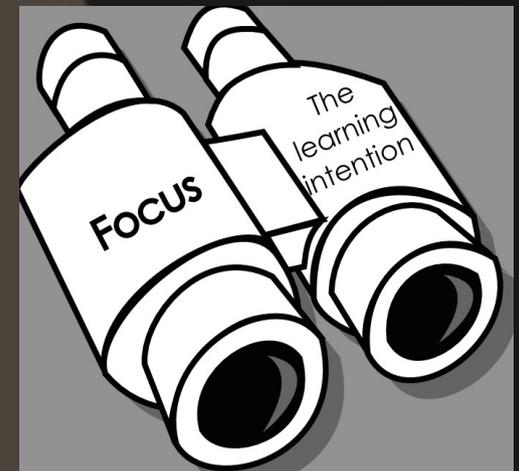
□ better adaptation to school,

□ increased social capital,

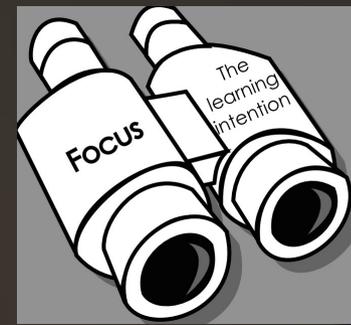
□ a greater sense of personal competence and efficacy for learning,

greater engagement in school work, and

□ a stronger belief in the importance of education.



Education



A study of 1330 children from the PSID showed that fathers who are involved on a personal level with their child schooling increases the likelihood of their child's achievement. When fathers assume a positive role in their child's education, students feel a positive impact.

- Fathers teaching at age 2 predicts children's reading and maths scores -- The less the fathers read to their infants, the worse their toddler scored on a standard measure of expressive vocabulary at age two
Paulson, J.F., Keefe, H.A., & Leiferman, J. A. (2009). Early parental depression and child language development. Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry, 50, 254–262.
- Tasks: threading beads or standing on one leg
- Father-child interaction predicts vocabularies at ages 5, 7, and 10
- Maths skills at ages 5 and 7
- How often fathers sang songs, read stories, told stories, and took child to a museum had a direct impact on achievement.
- Fathers' involvement predicts language, reading, and maths skills

Lowest achievers are students who's parents believe it is the teachers job to educate their child.

Academic Socialisation



The purpose of parental engagement in schooling contexts should therefore be to enhance student wellbeing as well as promote academic achievement. *Australasian Research Alliance for Children and Youth (ARACY)*

Communicating with children about parental expectations for education and about the value and enjoyment of learning,

- Discussing learning strategies with children,
- Linking school work to current events and other topics,
- Fostering educational aspirations and making preparations and plans for the future,
- Providing a stimulating home learning environment, and making learning enjoyable and rewarding,

And focusing on activities which are directed at building students' decision-making and problem solving skills and affirming their growing autonomy, independence, and academic abilities.

School readiness - Self Regulation

Wrestling, grappling, kicking, and tumbling

- ▶ Dominance swapping
- ▶ Play signals
- ▶ Different from fighting

No rough and tumble play leads to..

- ▶ Poor social skills
- ▶ Poor problem solving



School readiness - Self Regulation

Human toddlers start R&TP between 2 and 3 years of age

- ▶ Quality Father – child R &TP is associated with fewer behaviour problems
- ▶ Intense learning of self regulation in R&TP



School Readiness

Children who are best prepared:

Fathers are sensitive and supportive of their children's autonomy

Parents have an emotionally intimate relationship

Fathers interaction with their young children can change the connections in their brain

Between the ages of two and six: By talking and self regulating:

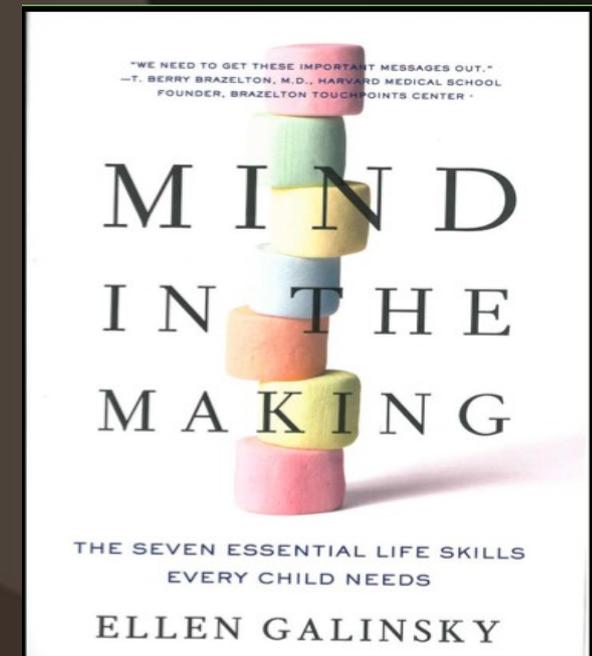
Most children will learn more than 10,000 words

The level of vocabulary will predict their success in literacy

Children learn to regulate their behaviours

They can stop action

They can switch focus



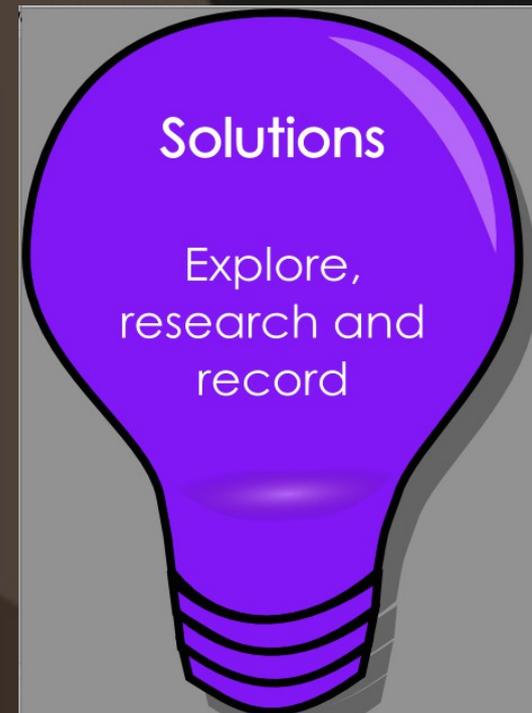
Fathers for School Readiness - Solutions!

Information evenings for fathers, mothers and educators.

- ▶ Literacy and Play Activity Workshops for fathers and their children
- ▶ Information distributed throughout school website and events.

Make it father-specific (and active)

Make it wonder-based



Where to next?



- Do you know where your child is all day? Visit school and see!
- Communicate with your child each day
- Take part in our events
- Our first event – Barbeque and games at the school – Saturday 7 May
- Be a part of the Champion Dads committee
- Contacts?