



Article published on December 15th 2011 | [Education](#)

The world of a young child is full of new foods to taste, new people to meet, new games to play, words to understand, places to visit, and concepts to master. It was just yesterday only when I saw a banner of a particular school. In that particular poster, there was the picture of a child and a mother driving a car. There was a baseline stating "Mom, is this traffic jam also sweet."

This baseline depicts the curious character of kids. In this particular banner ad, the child is comparing the traffic jam with eatable fruit jam. It is the word "jam" that created curiosity in the child's mind. Like the word "jam", each new thing creates a curiosity in their mind. We sometime become frustrated of our child's questions and we also find these illogical. But when children put their queries before us, they actually try to understand the world around them.

These questions may be simple for us, but for the young learners they play a great role. Each child has a different way of expressing the inner curiosity. Some asks questions, some try to find out the answers by their own. Being the guardians, it's our prime duty to meet their curiosity. Patience and compassion are the two vital components to become a successful parent. Kids should be given the freedom to express their views and opinions and also to explore the world by their own. One great scholar noted that curiosity is the driving force of intelligence. So it should always be encouraged.

There are ways to encourage the curious child. These are briefly discussed below:-

Kids should be introduced to new things as often as possible. After the introduction, try to clear up kids' doubt about the thing. For example, a new dish in the lunch time can be given so that kids should learn about it and its usefulness.

Rearranging the things in the surrounding of the kid make the kid curious. When parents rearrange the dolls or play items in their kids' room, they start quarrying about the changes and thus develop the quality of enquiry.

Mixing up the character and the stories that kids read also create interest among them. Give them a task to arrange the names of the animals, birds, vegetables or fruits against their names. By this way they will also come to acquire knowledge about different things in their surroundings.

Create a special space - in the bedroom, the den, or the basement -- where anything goes and exploration is encouraged.

Parents should show their interest in their child's activity. Parents can ask them question about different characters and other things that kids like the most. Toddlers are great mimics. So when their curiosity sends them out to explore, they use all their available senses and their catalogue of observations to try to figure out the world. Early childhood is a time for high-vigilance and supervised exploration. The challenge is to provide a safe and supervised setting so the children can express their curiosity in productive and healthy ways.

Article Source:

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[Osawebmastersix](#) - About Author:

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List Of School In Indore, List Of School In Mumbai, List Of Schools In Ahmedabad

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