Here are some places where you can help motivate your children:

The Lied Discovery Children’s Museum offers learning experiences in art, science, and culture—there are over 100 hands-on exhibits for children to explore. To receive more information, visit the Lied Museum at: 833 Las Vegas Boulevard North, Las Vegas, Nevada 89101, http://www.ldcm.org, or call (702) 382-2445.

The Natural History Museum is a place for kids to see how amazing wildlife can be. Their goal is to develop an appreciation and understanding of wildlife past and present, and to protect and conserve wild life and the environment. To find out more visit the museum at: 900 Las Vegas Blvd North, Las Vegas, Nevada 89101, http://www.lvnhm.org or call (702) 384-DINO.

The Clark County Public Libraries are located in all areas of the southern Nevada region. The Las Vegas/Clark County Libraries are provided to the community to help educate, entertain, and boost the imagination of the community. They have an entire children’s section with storytelling time, movies, and audio books to strengthen reading comprehension and imagination. They also provide computers with Internet access to explore and research or to type up those important assignments. To receive more information on a library near you visit: http://www.lvccld.org or call (702) 734-READ.

The Nevada Arts Council provides outreach services (including financial assistance) to schools, local arts councils and organizations, community centers, performing groups and individual artists. That is what the Nevada Arts Council is all about. Overall NAC serves as a catalyst for arts programming throughout the state, assisting arts organizations, groups and individuals in bringing the arts to the people of Nevada. For a detailed calendar of Cultural Events please visit: http://dmla.elan.lib.nv.us/docs/dmla/calendar/ or call: (775)687-6680

Red Rock Canyon is a great place for outdoor fun. There are trails, a museum, and wonderful natural beauty to explore. For more information see their website: http://www.redrockcanyon.blm.gov/, telephone, (702) 363-1922, or visit them at HCR33, Box 5500 Las Vegas, NV 89124

This fact sheet focuses on one of the keys, Motivate. Look for additional fact sheets with Parenting Keys: Care for Self, Nurture, Guide, Understand, and Advocate.

Motivate

Moottivate means preparing and working with children to help them do well in school and in life. When a parent Moottivate a child, he/she emphasizes the importance of school, exposes children to opportunities to learn, and when possible helps children learn. This motivation to be successful can carry over into other areas of the child’s life.

Parents who Moottivate their children to do well are more likely to have children who become confident, skilled learners and achieve more throughout their life. Children who are motivated are more likely to work through the challenges of life.

An important area for children to succeed in is school. Doing well in school lays the foundation for success in life. For some children, school comes easily and they are self-motivated to do well. For others, school is not easy, and they may need extra motivation from parents to help them do their best.

How can parents Moottivate a child to learn?

- A parent can talk about the importance of education. A parent can start early and regularly emphasize to a child the value of education in his/her life.

- Children need to have schoolwork or reading time structured into their day. For example, some parents have reading time right before children go to bed.

- Children need to read, read, and read! Reading and writing are the foundation for success. Parents can help children by reading to them, helping them with reading, and encouraging them to read for pleasure.

- Children need a place to do their homework. They need a place where they can put their stuff and sit down and work. If at all possible, this place should be quiet and comfortable. Some parents have a corner of a room as a study or reading area; other parents have a box that fits under the bed that holds all the child’s supplies.

- Besides reading, children can play learning games. If a computer is available, educational and fun learning games can be played on the computer. Many schools and libraries have computers that parents and children can use. There are also great educational board games that can be purchased or checked out from a local library.

- If possible, parents can take children to places or events that are educational, such as, a museum. Children need to see things in the world that will encourage and expand their own curiosity and thoughts. Or, parents and children can watch an educational television program and talk about that program.

- Parents should work closely with their child’s school to make sure their child is doing alright. Although sometimes difficult, parents talking often with a child’s teacher can really help the child succeed.

The examples above are simple and important ways to Moottivate children to do well.

Most importantly, parents need to offer a lot of encouragement and caring responses to children’s efforts. When children do their best with their schoolwork, parents can help motivate children by responding positively. For example, “Congratulations, you must be very proud of your hard work” or “Nice job, working hard on that really paid off for you”. Parents who respond in this way are helping to motivate children for further success.

Education is very important to children’s success and their view of themselves. Parents can help children’s learning to be productive and fun.