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School Support

10 Ways to Participate in Your Grandchild's School Life

Grandparents can provide extra support for their families, especially during the school year when busy schedules make life especially hectic for their families. If your grandchildren live at a distance, provide positive support to family members by calling, emailing and "Facetiming" as often as possible. Celebrate and reward every academic accomplishment - and be sure to compliment your grandchild's parents for their great support. If you live nearby, here are some suggestions about how you can help your family during the school year:

1. Help to transport your grandchild to or from school and/or assist in taking the child to after school therapies or activities.
2. Ask to observe the therapy or other treatment sessions so you can reinforce the lessons with your grandchild afterwards.
3. Offer to take your typical grandchildren to their appointments, activities or for outings
4. Prepare and deliver box lunches and family dinners to your grandchild's home. Frozen meals are great options and available when needed.
5. Sponsor leisure time recreational activities for your grandchildren and their parents, such as gym memberships, team sports, passes for movies, amusement parks, etc.
6. Plan excursions with your grandchildren that reinforce what they are studying such as visits to museums, parks and local attractions.
7. Offer respite care whenever possible or offer to help pay for additional help.
8. Offer to attend your grandchild's Individualized Education Program (IEP) review at school. Take comprehensive notes.
9. Reinforce good personal hygiene by demonstrating grooming, dental, and good

health care habits,

10. Teach independent living skills such as banking, grocery and clothing shopping.



Independent Living Skills

Teaching Independent Living in the Kitchen

Here are some examples of how you can teach independent living skills in the kitchen:

- * Setting the table
- * Clearing the table
- * Putting food items away
- * Knowing amount of food worth saving
- * Obtaining correct container & transferring food to container
- * Determining whether items go in refrigerator or pantry
- * Doing the dishes
- * Handling dishes with care
- * Handling knives
- * Rinsing items sufficiently
- * Knowing what does/does not go in the dishwasher
- * Learning what items need to be placed on the top rack
- * Unloading the dishwasher
- * Wiping off counters
- * Where to place sponges/wet dish rag/towels
- * Emptying the trash -Inserting a new trash bag



Educational Apps & Software

Beginning Operations Interactive Activities

Real live math practice at a variety of small businesses including a lemonade stand, a drive-through designer and an apple orchard. [CLICK HERE.](#)



Fractions of the Pizza Interactive Game

This game teaches players fractions as they drive around collecting slices of pizza and racing to the finish. [CLICK HERE.](#)

Vocabulary Interactive Game

For each game, children team up with a friendly character that guides them every step of the way as they practice vocabulary concepts through games. [CLICK HERE.](#)

Community Socials

Cal State Fullerton 2016

Thank you to all our guests and volunteers who participated in the Social for Adults with Autism and Their Caregivers at CSUF on October 16, 2016. We registered 275 guests and the day was packed full of activities, fun and resources for families. The guests were busy enjoying the various activities provided. The caregivers were especially happy to have respite time and to watch their son/daughter presented with new possibilities for friendship following the Social (Interest Groups).

Here's a link to the article that appeared in the Daily Titan <http://www.dailytitan.com/2016/10/autism-social-gives-networking-chance/> Thank you all for your very special support.



[CLICK HERE FOR MORE PHOTOS](#)

Advocacy

Caregiver Wage Rule here to Stay

Last year, the Obama Administration implemented new rules to help protect wages

for hourly caregivers by requiring that in-home care workers be paid minimum wage and overtime. Various industry groups have been challenging the ruling but as of this past July, the U.S. Supreme Court refused to hear any more cases against the ruling. Check out the Disability Scoop for more information about Caregiver pay: <https://www.disabilityscoop.com/2016/07/14/caregiver-wage-rule-here-to-stay/22480/?pgnc=1>

Research Updates

Webinar on Sex Differences In Autism

In this video, Kevin Pelphrey, PhD, director of the Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders Institute at George Washington University, discusses, "Listening to our Daughters (and their Sisters): Insights from the Study of Girls and Women Living with Autism." Dr. Pelphrey was founding director of the the Yale Center for Translational Developmental Neuroscience and the Neurogenetics Network of the Autism Centers of Excellence Program. He also has a daughter with autism.



eBay Donations

Donate to GAN's [Giving Works eBay Store](#)

Grandparents have lots of "stuff" like collectibles, unused gifts and household goods, clothing, vintage jewelry and things in good condition that our families "do not want."

Your "stuff" can benefit other grandparents and families affected by autism. The Grandparent Autism Network welcomes donated goods.



You can drop off tax deductible items at Jay's Catering, 10581 Garden Grove Blvd., Garden Grove, CA - or send them C/O GAN at 23785 El Toro Road, #103, Lake Forest, CA 92630 (USPS flat rate boxes may lower mailing costs!)

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**Networking together,
grandparents are a vital
resource for autism...
and each other!**