

TOP 10 THINGS MY CHILDREN TAUGHT ME

(or - How to ensure a LONG and STRONG relationship with your Kids)

#10

Drop your assumption that you know what's best for them.

#9

Facilitate, but don't meddle.

#8

Hold off on giving your opinion while you're feeling any negative response.

#7

Only use time-outs on yourself.

#6

Try to allow them room to "fix" their own situations. Of course, you can suggest what you might do for yourself if it was you in their shoes. But don't fix it for them.

#5

Don't get too enamored with or emotionally invested in what YOU see as your child's talents and gifts.

#4

LISTEN and learn. Get to know your kids, and marvel when they show you new ways to see things.

#3

Try to wean yourself from any self-imposed "schedule addiction." Experience the guilt-free pleasure of living with flexibility, inspiration and openness.

#2

Respect your child's ideas, judgment and inherent wisdom. You can only do that when you respect your own ideas, judgment and inherent wisdom.

#1

The #1 thing I learned from my kids:
Before responding or offering your opinion, always consider how you would respond if this was your best adult friend.

TOP 10 THINGS MY CHILDREN TAUGHT ME *was learned, written and provided by unschooling advocate, Maria Whitworth.*

Watch for her new book, scheduled for release fall of 2008:
Say YES to Your Kids, written by Maria Elisabeth Whitworth

Read Maria's blog at www.selfreliantlife.blogspot.com