

JOURNEY TO POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

"IF YOU RAISE YOUR CHILDREN TO FEEL THAT THEY CAN ACCOMPLISH ANY GOAL OR TASK THEY DECIDE UPON, YOU WILL HAVE SUCCEEDED AS A PARENT AND YOU WILL HAVE GIVEN YOUR CHILDREN THE GREATEST OF ALL GIFTS." BRIAN TRACY



"IT ALWAYS SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE UNTIL ITS DONE." ~ NELSON MANDELA

WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT HELPING YOUR TEEN ALONG HIS OR HER CAREER PATH, IT MIGHT HELP TO IMAGINE YOU'RE PLANNING A TRIP—AFTER ALL, THIS WILL BE A JOURNEY! WHEN PLANNING A TRIP YOU GO THROUGH A NUMBER OF STEPS TO MAKE IT SOMETHING YOU WILL ENJOY AND REMEMBER.

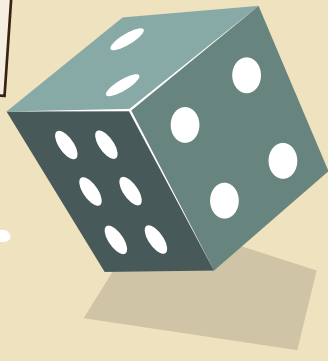
KNOW YOUR CHILD AND EXPLORE THEIR PASSIONS AND INTERESTS. EXPLORE OPTIONS OPEN TO THEM. DEVELOP A PLAN AND SET GOALS FOR THEIR CAREER PATH. PUT THE PLAN INTO ACTION TO HELP YOUR CHILD ACHIEVE THEIR GOALS.

THE ENVIRONMENT YOU CREATE FOR YOUR CHILD EVEN IN THE WOMB IS IMPORTANT. READING TO YOUR BABY BEFORE AND AFTER BIRTH HELPS STIMULATE LANGUAGE SKILLS, COGNITIVE THINKING SKILLS, AND ENHANCES MEMORY.

POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION IS EXPENSIVE. IF YOU ARE ABLE TO, BEGIN TO SAVE MONEY IN A REGISTERED EDUCATION SAVINGS PLAN (RESP). EVEN \$25 A MONTH OVER THE NEXT 14 YEARS WILL HELP. AS ABOUT AN RESP AT YOUR BANK OR CREDIT UNION.

KEEP AN OPEN MIND. MANY CHILDREN IN KINDERGARTEN WILL BE WORKING IN JOBS NOT YET INVENTED. UNIVERSITY ISN'T THE ONLY OPTION TO SUCCESS IN THE LABOUR MARKET.

JK-K
SPEND TIME TALKING TO, INTERACTING WITH AND PLAYING WITH YOUR CHILD TO HELP THEM DEVELOP THEIR VERBAL AND SOCIAL SKILLS.
BUY YOUR CHILD GIFTS THAT WILL HELP THEM EXPLORE THEIR PASSIONS AND INTERESTS.



GRADE 8
EXPLORE CAREER AND EDUCATION OPTIONS OPEN TO YOUR CHILD. DEVELOP A PLAN AND SET CAREER GOALS THAT INCLUDE HIGH SCHOOL COURSES NEEDED FOR ENTRY TO COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY PROGRAMS.
START TO VISIT COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES.

GRADES 4-7
NOW IS THE TIME TO DEVELOP GOOD STUDY SKILLS. IF YOU DON'T HAVE A QUIET PLACE AT HOME, YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY MAY BE AN OPTION.

GRADE 3
THIS IS AN IMPORTANT YEAR. YOUR CHILD'S READING SKILLS AT THIS GRADE IS AN INDICATOR OF SUCCESS IN HIGH SCHOOL. IF THEY ARE NOT READING AT GRADE LEVEL GET HELP AND THE EXTRA SUPPORT YOUR CHILD'S NEEDS.

GRADES 1-2
SUPPLEMENT WHAT YOUR CHILD IS LEARNING IN SCHOOL WITH EXTRA—CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES.
REMEMBER THAT ALL CHILDREN BENEFIT FROM CONTINUING TO READ. READING PHYSICAL BOOKS IS BEST FOR THEM.
BE SURE TO TAKE YOUR CHILD TO COMMUNITY EVENTS AND ENSURE THEY ARE READING BOOKS WITH BLACK CHARACTERS SO THAT THEY ARE DEVELOPING A POSITIVE RACIAL AND ETHNIC IDENTITY.

GRADE 9
BEGIN TO RESEARCH COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES AND THE PROGRAMS THEY OFFER.
ATTEND COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY FAIRS.
CONTINUE TO VISIT COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES.
VOLUNTEERING IS A GOOD WAY FOR YOUTH TO EXPLORE THEIR INTERESTS.

GRADES 10-11
BEGIN TO CREATE A PORTFOLIO OF YOUR CHILD'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS, VOLUNTEER WORK, HOBBIES, AND OTHER ACTIVITIES.
BY THE END OF GRADE 11 MAKE A LIST OF PROGRAMS TO APPLY TO POST-SECONDARY.
RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES.
ADMISSION DECISIONS ARE BASED IN PART ON GRADE 11 GRADES. THIS IS A CRITICAL YEAR IF YOUR CHILD IS TO ENTER COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY.

GRADE 12
APPLY FOR ADMISSION TO COLLEGE AND/OR UNIVERSITY.
APPLY FOR SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES.
FINAL ADMISSION DECISIONS ARE BASED ON GRADE 12 MARKS. ENCOURAGE YOUR CHILD TO FOCUS IN THIS CRITICAL YEAR.

"THE EYE CROSSES THE RIVER BEFORE THE BODY." ~ AFRICAN PROVERB

CONGRATULATIONS!



GOOD LUCK ON AN EXCITING AND SUCCESSFUL FUTURE!

CONGRATULATIONS!
WHILE YOU SHOULD CELEBRATE YOUR CHILD'S SUCCESS, YOUR WORK CONTINUES. THIS IS THE BEGINNING OF ANOTHER JOURNEY WITH YOUR CHILD. THEY NEED YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT IF THEY ARE TO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION.

POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

POST-SECONDARY OPTIONS

COLLEGE
COLLEGES FOCUS MORE ON CAREER TRAINING AND TRADES. COLLEGES TEND TO BE MORE DIRECTLY CAREER-ORIENTED THAN UNIVERSITIES. THIS MEANS THEY OFFER PRACTICAL OR HANDS-ON TRAINING. GENERALLY, A CERTIFICATE PROGRAM IS 1 YEAR OR LESS, AND A DIPLOMA PROGRAM IS 2 OR 3 YEARS. SOME ONTARIO COLLEGES MAY ALSO OFFER BACHELOR DEGREES.

UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITIES GRANT DEGREES AND FOCUS ON ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS. UNIVERSITIES OFFER GRADUATE PROGRAMS LEADING TO A MASTER'S DEGREE OR A PH.D. THESE INSTITUTIONS ALSO MAY HAVE A MEDICAL OR LAW SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS WISHING TO PURSUE PROFESSIONAL DEGREES. ALL UNIVERSITIES HAVE UNDERGRADUATE (BACHELOR'S) DEGREES, AND MANY HAVE GRADUATE (MASTER'S AND DOCTORAL) PROGRAMS. UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES USUALLY TAKE 3-4 YEARS TO COMPLETE IF YOU STUDY FULL-TIME.

APPRENTICESHIPS
AN APPRENTICESHIP IS A PATHWAY TO A CAREER IN THE TRADES. SOME APPRENTICESHIPS CAN BE ENTERED RIGHT OUT OF HIGH SCHOOL, OTHERS OUT OF COLLEGE. AS AN APPRENTICE, YOU TAKE CLASSES AND LEARN YOUR TRADE BY WORKING UNDER THE DIRECTION OF EXPERIENCED WORKERS, AND YOU GET PAID WHILE YOU DO IT. IT TAKES 2 TO 5 YEARS TO COMPLETE AN APPRENTICESHIP.