Parenting Tips
January 1
When your child asks permission to do something, take time to consider your answer. Tell them, “I’ll give you an answer in 15 minutes. (an hour, 5 minutes, etc.) If I answer now, it will be no, after I think it through it may be yes.”

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Parenting Tips
January 2
Let your children see you reading everyday. As soon as they are able, let your children read to you.

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Parenting Tips
January 3
Discuss the advantages of abstinence. If your child is sexually active, discuss postponing further sexual activity until marriage.

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Parenting Tips
January 4
When you are away from your child for several hours or days, tell your child how much you missed him/her. This communicates that your love for your children is with them even when you are not together.

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Parenting Tips
January 5
Whenever it is gift giving time for your children, consider adding a book to their personal book collection.

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Parenting Tips
January 6
The conversation that you have with your child that goes along with reading aloud is just as important as the reading itself. Talk about what is happening in the story and why.

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Parenting Tips
January 7
Help your child choose toys that he/she has out grown or lost interest in. Be sure they are in good condition, then let your child donate them to a charity organization.

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Parenting Tips
January 8
Read the forecast for tomorrow’s weather. Ask your child what kind of clothes he or she should wear.

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Parenting Tips
January 9
Create a bedtime story in which your child is the hero or heroine. You can also change the name of the main character in a favorite book to that of your child.
Parenting Tips

January 10
Breakfast is the most important meal of the day for your child. Many studies show that students are less able to perform well without the significant nutrients that a healthy breakfast provides.

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Parenting Tips

January 11
Accept your children as they are. Do not expect them to fit into your mold for them.

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Parenting Tips

January 12
Traditions to pass along to your children: Catching lightning bugs, cloud watching, running through the sprinklers, picking berries, hunting four-leaf clovers, toasting marshmallows. What other traditions did you enjoy as a child?

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Parenting Tips

January 13
When considering a reasonable punishment for your child’s poor behavior – wait until you are not angry. Once the punishment is revealed, stick to it! This will build your child’s trust and respect in you.

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Parenting Tips

January 14
Remember that you are your children’s most important role model. They learn by observing you – even when you don’t know it.

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Parenting Tips

January 15
No shots, no school. Florida requires students entering our school system to have shots as protection against specific childhood diseases.

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Parenting Tips

January 16
When reading to your child, stop before the end of the story and let your child tell you how he/she thinks the story ends.

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Parenting Tips

January 17
Help make math fun and meaningful. Let your child pump gasoline into your car and then calculate the cost and miles per gallon.

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Parenting Tips

January 18
“I am proud of you for trying. Don’t give up.” When a child is trying, but not meeting much success, a comment like this might be helpful.

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Parenting Tips
January 19
Develop a courteous tone of voice in communication. Respect brings respect – even in the way we speak. Gruffness or abruptness can arouse hostility, whereas as pleasant tone of voice can pay great dividends in improved relationships.

Parenting Tips
January 20
Respect your teen’s privacy. Knock before you enter his or her room. It is hard for them to show respect to you if you do not show respect to them.

Parenting Tips
January 21
Keep up to date on the latest drugs and slang terms. If you use outdated information, your child will think you do not really know what you are talking about and will not listen to you.

Parenting Tips
January 22
If your child has done something wrong, do not say, “You are a bad girl or boy.” Instead say, “I love you, but what you did was wrong.” You have explained your disapproval without hurting their self-esteem.

Parenting Tips
January 23
When giving children a task, be specific. Don’t just say, “Clean your room.” Try saying, “I want you to straighten your desk, put your toys away, clean under your bed, pick up your clothes, etc.” then give a specific amount of time.

Parenting Tips
January 24
Let your child see you at school. This tells him/her that school is important. If you work, offer to be a guest speaker explaining your occupation. This can take less than an hour.

Parenting Tips
January 25
Listen to what you say to your children. Speak to your children in a way that makes them feel good about themselves. EX: “Good try!”, “This is an outstanding way of doing that”, “I like doing this with you”.

Parenting Tips
January 26
Touch your child in a positive way whenever you get close to them. A gentle touch on your child’s head, shoulder, hand, waist or back reassures them more than your words can.

Parenting Tips
January 27
Talk frankly with your child about your feelings concerning illegal drugs. Calmly tell your children why you are against drugs.
Parenting Tips
January 28
Academic success should improve if you monitor the amount of time your child watches TV and works after school jobs.

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Parenting Tips
January 29
Parenting is not for wimps! Your children need you to assertively take charge when they engage in disruptive and destructive behavior.

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Parenting Tips
January 30
Check out a book from the library about holidays around the world. How did the people from your ancestors' native land celebrate various holidays?

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Parenting Tips
January 31
Create a secret I LOVE YOU signal with your children. Such as: two squeezes of a hand, touch your ear, touch their nose, give a thumbs up, etc.

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