



Teaching Your Cub About Money

Teaching kids about money is one of the most important things you can do as a parent and educator. And yet it's one of the most intimidating. We run across people all the time who confess that they're not very confident in their own money skills...so they feel completely unqualified to teach their kids and teens to manage money.

And if they feel qualified? They're terribly confused over where to start (saving money, spending money, earning it, etc.).

Like, what does their child already know, and not know, and how do they pick up from there?

If this describes you, too, then we are so glad you're here. You're not alone.

You ARE qualified to do this. And I'm going to help make your task a bit easier.

Step One When Teaching Kids about Money

You're probably here hoping for a list of what lessons to teach your child, and when to teach them (stick around – we'll go into specifics for both of these).

But first, before we dive into expert findings and other expectations of what your child should know about money at their age?

You need to get clear on what YOU want to pass onto your child.

Because at the end of the day – when your child has graduated and moved off – the buck stops with you. And you want to feel GOOD about what you teach your child, right?

Figuring out how to teach kids about money is only half the equation. The other half is knowing what to teach them.

A full money education isn't only about reaching the minimum requirements around teaching kids and students about money. It's about merging those with the lessons that you want to personally pass down to your kid(dos).



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Exercise - Money Mission Statement

This exercise is going to guide you through getting clarity around the lessons you want to pass onto your child.

We want you to think back. Way back, to before you carried your money hang-ups around with you.

When money didn't feel like a limiting factor. Wasn't a limited resource. Wasn't a stressor.

When money was shiny, and new, and something you were highly fascinated with.

What did you want for yourself in terms of money at this point in your life?

That's how deep we want you to dig to create a money mission statement for your own child.

What do you want them to KNOW about money?

How do you want them to FEEL about money?

What do you want them to be able to DO with money?

Take a few minutes and brainstorm your mission statement:

1. How do I want my child to feel about money?
2. What are the ways in which I want my child to be able to use money?
3. What values do I want to pass onto my child and which ones do I hope don't get passed on?
4. Where do I want them to financially be at different stages of their lives (teenager, high school graduate, college graduate, first job, etc.)?
5. How dependent or independent do I want them to be on me financially and otherwise? How can I ensure I do my best to facilitate that level of independence that's right for our family?

Think about it honestly and be specific about what you want to pass onto them.