

Monique's Tip for Parents

Hi Parents

Would you laugh if I said you had a special power? You do.

It's called influence. You are a huge influence on your kids, despite how many times you may have wondered if they ever hear you!

You know they listen because if you have ever listened to them coaching a friend through a troublesome time, you might be very surprised to hear them repeating all the wonderful wisdom you've imparted on them...verbatim!

Now that you know how influential you are, why not use it to make this school year better for everyone. If you want your kids to spend more time on homework, decide how you'd like to implement this new idea. You could tell them that everyone in the house will be spending a half hour every night at the kitchen table or try setting aside a quiet time for the entire household including you.

Carry it through.

If you get a lot of whining and resistance, tell the kids the rule won't start for 2 weeks or until October. That will give them time to get used to the idea. Call those few weeks of waiting "countdown to a better year" and mark the days off on the calendar. Tell them all the positive things that will come from it. Use your power of influence to make it a positive experience by saying you are looking forward to making your September better too. Enjoy!

- Monique