

The Role of Fathers in Child Development

Fathers are essential to the health and well being of the entire family. The parent, children and child care provider benefit when fathers are actively involved in the lives of their children. Their involvement can make a difference in the success of their child in school and in life. The following links provide resources and materials that support the role of the father in child development.



The National Center for Fathering

<http://www.fathers.com/>

Research tells us that by strengthening fathers the family is strengthened. This site offers resources to help with family issues that affect children as well as everyday challenges. The *Urban Father/Child Project* provides information for "Responsible Fathers Leading Children to Success." *What's New* will provide fathers with the latest tips, articles, humor and other resources for Dads.



The University of Illinois Extension

<http://www.urbanext.uiuc.edu/nibbles/daycare-happykids.html>

According to research studies, children feel better about themselves, have better relationships with other children and perform better when fathers are actively involved. This site provides "*Nibbles...Ideas for Families*" which includes a list that a preschool child might offer to encourage Dad's involvement.



Child Care Aware

<http://www.childcareaware.org/en/fatherhood/?a=guide>

Child Care Aware provides a guide for father entitled "*Give Your Child an Early Lead in Life...Quality Child Care*" which provides fathers five steps to choosing and being involved in the selection of quality child care. This site is available in Spanish.



The Fathers Network

<http://www.fathersnetwork.org/>

The Fathers Network provides current information and resources to assist all families and care providers involved in the lives of children with special needs. This site is also available in Spanish.



The Fatherhood Project

<http://www.fatherhoodproject.org/>

The Fatherhood Project is a national research and education project that examines the future of fatherhood and the development of the father's involvement in child rearing.