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HOW TO DEVELOP ENTREPRENEURIAL SKILLS IN YOUR CHILD

Celebrating Children's Day, we bring an inspirational thought to the table. A question I've been asked many times – How can we help our kids develop entrepreneurial skills?

As a mother of 2 kids, who could one day become themselves entrepreneurs, I admit this thought has crossed my mind on many occasions. Therefore, I would like to start with the motive – is having entrepreneurial skills any good? Being an entrepreneur is not easy, we all know that, but according to the global megatrends, it seems that the coming years will make us all, especially the young generation, face globalization, more complex tasks, exposition of data and much more...All leading to a complete re-definition of what we call "job". Under these circumstances, having such skills might greatly influence their path to success. Now, the question is: How do we do that? Well I can gladly share some of my methods, what I've been instinctively doing, as I am not a parent trainer, but just a mother who happened to be an entrepreneur for the last 20 years. I will wrap everything up in 5 major tips:

Tip #1: Encourage creativity

When your child shares with you one of their daily obstacles, try not to jump to solution. Simply ask 2 questions: *How will you solve it? Do you need me to intervene?* You will be surprised how, in many cases, your child knows the solution and that there is no need for you to intervene. By allowing your child to overcome some of their obstacles by himself (with your support of course) you show them you trust their judgment and that they are smart and resourceful. Confidence in your own mindset is one of the mandatory attributes for any entrepreneur.

Tip #2: Teach the child about risks

Whenever I and my kids pass by a new shop that is yet to open, I start a discussion with them about *RISKS*. No matter how old they are, we debate about the concept of shopping, the location, what are their main risks and advantages and so on...After a while I discovered that my kids are able to analyze risks sometimes better than myself, because of their "pure" and bright way of seeing their surroundings. Understanding the meaning of risks and how to manage them is a huge gift you can offer your child via an open and fun debate.

Tip #3: Talk openly about money.

Money is a great thing. Teach your kids that money is not the target but a means to an end that enable them to achieve their goals. When you send a message that money is not OK, or judge people by how much money they have, the child will get the whole idea wrong. As well, when you pay your kids for helping with chores, you actually corrupt them into thinking that for everything you do you must earn money... Your child is supposed to have a contribution in the house exactly as you do for them and without any payment. Talking openly about money is one of the keys to become “money-friendly” and attract wealth.

Tip #4: It is Ok to fail!

No one likes to fail, I know, but the life of an entrepreneur is full of failures. Successful entrepreneurs are the ones who didn't give up and kept on trying, again and again until eventually reaching success (before further failures ...). When you show your child how you react in times of failure and offer him support, you teach him that failing is normal and that after any failure, they will rise up stronger.

Tip #5 – Contribute together to the society

Being an active part of your community is one of the most important values you can teach your kids. I included this as an entrepreneurial skill because I truly believe doing good things to the people around you, supporting the weak and empowering others which might have been less fortunate than you, will actually have a positive effect on you more than you can ever imagine. Being a good entrepreneur usually comes with being a good person, attentive to others and attracting positivity and optimism all around you.

May our kids be healthy, happy and successful – Happy Children's Day!

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