

Children need their fathers.

- Children need both a father and a mother to help them grow into healthy adults.
- A child who grows up without a dad is more likely to get into trouble.
- It is important for fathers to be involved with their children's lives whether they live with their children or not.

Follow these suggestions for how to be a responsible and loving father.

SPEND TIME WITH YOUR CHILDREN

When a father spends time with his children, it sends the message that they are important.

- If you always seem to be too busy for your children, they will feel neglected no matter what you say.

RESPECT YOUR CHILDREN'S MOTHER

One of the best things a father can do for his children is to respect and support their mother.

- Whether you live together or not, it gives children a sense of security when they see you respecting their mom.

BE A TEACHER

A father who teaches his children good values will see them make good choices.

- Teach your children right from wrong. Teach them manners and self-control.
- Encourage your children to do their best.

SHOW YOUR LOVE AND AFFECTION

Children need the security that comes from knowing they are wanted, accepted and loved by their father.

- Learn to feel comfortable hugging your children. Showing affection every day lets your children know that you love them.

BE A ROLE MODEL

Fathers are role models to their kids whether they realize it or not.

- Children who spend time with a loving father grow up learning about respect and responsibility.

DISCIPLINE WITH LOVE

A father who disciplines with love builds a loving and caring relationship with his children.

- Praise your children's positive behavior, the types of behavior you want to keep seeing.
- Stick to your boundaries and limits gently, but firmly.
- Stay calm and be fair.

Children Need Their Fathers

*There will be
many times in
your
children's
lives when
they need
their father.*

Be there.



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Prevent Child Abuse Rhode Island is a 501 (c) (3) not-for-profit organization whose mission is to keep every child in Rhode Island safe from abuse and neglect through a primary prevention approach of education, advocacy and public awareness activities.



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