

## 启发儿童智慧的奥秘09

"Mama also said, grades don't mean everything. What's important is to be responsible for the things we do." Little sister Hsiang Wen also knows a thing or two!

With wholesome mental attitudes taught to them by their parents, Wan Ting and Hsiang Wen always faced tests and grades with a laid-back mentality.

When traveling abroad for abacus and mental arithmetic competitions, Wan Ting was always particularly "excited" because the whole family would be able to go together. Due to numerous orders at the factory, Mr. Su often had to fill the role of both boss and employee, getting home at 8 or 9 p.m. every day to eat "leftovers." Even on the weekends, he had to work and had no time to spend with the kids, not to mention taking family trips. However, no matter how busy Mr. Su was or how little time he had, he would always put off his work and take the whole family when his precious daughters Wan Ting and Hsiang Wen had to travel to compete.

"Even though it's a competition, it's more like traveling on vacation." Mr. Su says, "Normally their mother stays home with them. As their father, I feel guilty. It feels great to spend some family time together during the girls' competition trips, and at the same time I'm forcing myself to take a break from work. It's like killing two birds with one stone!"

Additionally, during the trips, Mrs. Su took the opportunity to observe how others teach and gathered related teaching materials and information. Mrs. Su says, "Know thyself, know thy enemy, and thou shalt stand to win hundreds of battles."

Other than buying teaching materials and test problems, Mr. and Mrs. Su also often wrote test problems for Wan Ting and Hsiang Wen to practice, making learning abacus and mental arithmetic a "whole family exercise" at the Su's. Having the whole family engaged not only increases the children's learning interest, it also brings the parents and children closer together. While striving for higher, better grades, unity in the family increases. Perhaps this was the most valuable result for the Su family.

We are friends in this family

Su Wan Ting's motto:

Think only of success, not of failure.

On any given Sunday, any team can beat any other team.

"I have many friends. My best friends are my father, mother and sister." In Su Wan Ting's family, there are four happy members-- father, mother, and the two sisters.

When the young, lively Mrs. Su is with her children, the three have so much fun. Mrs. Su is like an older sister, rarely screaming at the children not to do this or that, or to urge the girls to take baths or do homework. In the eyes of her daughters, Mrs. Su is reasonable and a good friend.

"When mother had a good opinion, she would share it with us. When I encountered things that I didn't understand, she would take something out of her treasure trove of wisdom. She was never stingy." For Wan Ting, not only is her mother a competent nanny, but also an all-knowing teacher playing the roles of "walking encyclopedia" and "treasure box."

"When I'm in a bad mood, mother is my loyal listener. When I am lost, mother pulls me out. That's why she is my best, best friend." Having a mother with whom Wan Ting can talk makes the home feel like a warm nest with the world's softest and most comfortable arms and hugs. Surrounded by such warmth, the children naturally grow and learn more wholesomely.

"Since we were born, mother has devoted herself to us, taking care of us without complaints or regrets and never asking for payback. When we're happy, she's happy. When we're angry, she gets sad. That's the reason why as I got older, I never let my mom feel sad. I know how hard she works and how good she is. It is pitiful for a kid to have no mother, so I must cherish mine."

Seeing this in Wan Ting's diary, Mrs. Su was touched. She says, "A filial child is the greatest comfort for parents."