

启发儿童智慧的奥秘10

To her younger sister, Wan Ting is very much like an older sister. She says, "My little sister is my little friend. I am her little teacher. In schoolwork, we stimulate each other. Sometimes she says funny things to make me laugh and comes up with riddles for me to guess. She also shares good food with me."

Due to her sister's outstanding performance, Hsiang Wen often looks up to Wan Ting as a role model. Mrs. Su says, "The little one always wants to do what her older sister does." Wan Ting is the model student in her class, and her little sister Hsiang Wen equally lives up to expectations, striving to be chosen as model student. Once, Hsiang Wen placed first in her class with a high score of 599. With two outstanding daughters, no wonder Mr. and Mrs. Su are always smiling.

Speaking of her father, Wan Ting couldn't wait to reveal her old man's "secret." "Father has an amazing appetite. If he were to enter TV Champion's eating contest, he would definitely win!" Mr. Su is very strong and fit, resembling a Kung Fu master, but he looks honest and polite, and says very little.

Mr. Su often mocks himself, saying he is but a "mechanic," but in Wan Ting's eyes, her father is a "little computer" with a good brain! "Father is a businessman. Though he's not good with words, he has great reflexes. He's great at calculating prices. When mother has difficulties with math problems, she always asks him for help, and then everything's fine"

Mr. Su says he had good grades back in school, but because he liked to play, he ended up not graduating from junior college. Now he often tells his children to "study hard. Don't be greedy for play, or else it will be too late when you grow up and want to study!" The two sisters will answer in unison, mischievously, "Yes, father!"

If counting numbers were like counting money

Su Wan Ting's motto:

Do not fear going slow, only fear standing still.

Good is good, but better carries it.

Wan Ting likes quite a few subjects. Among them, she thinks "mathematics" the most interesting. To an average kid, "mathematics" is usually a synonym for "fear;" seeing math brings on a headache. But for Wan Ting, math is a subject that makes one happy. What is her secret? It's simple. She counts numbers as if she were counting "money;" the more she counts, the more energetic she becomes!

Wan Ting says math is the most realistic and most interesting subject. "Arithmetic problems are easy. Applied problems are a little

trickier. If I turn in the right direction, I go forward, but if I turn in the wrong direction, I hit the wall and still have no clue."

"But what's most fun is counting numbers like they were money. The bigger I count, it's like the more money I have. One, ten, hundred...I can keep going for as much as I want. Don't you think that's fun? That's why I think my favorite subject is math! Daydreaming and imagining how much money I have, using my brain, using my hands...it's not bad!"

In addition, Wan Ting feels that math problems are comprehensive, covering figures, areas, applied problems and so on, "Sometimes I think so hard, I think my brain will explode. I'd think over and over again and finally have an answer. Wow! At that instant, I'd feel smart. On the other hand, when I reach no answer, I feel stupid."

Mrs. Su teaches her kids to "hypothesize bravely but look for proof carefully " when doing math problems, meaning that for any problem, first find its structure, then look for proof step by step. Wan Ting says math is not scary; what's scary is not getting the point.