

HOW TO CREATE TEACHABLE MOMENTS FOR KIDS

A teachable moment is an unplanned, or intentionally placed, learning opportunity. These can happen anywhere and at anytime. They provide parents, guardians, and teachers the chance to help children learn new concepts and deepen their understanding of previously acquired knowledge. This can also be very useful when considering the design process as students can be more informed as they develop future iterations.

Parents, guardians and teachers have learned to watch for these moments. They listen and pay close attention ready to pounce with questions or thoughtful discussion at any time. We can create these moments especially when kids are working on a project or doing their homework by asking open ended questions. More importantly we need to be ready to explain and discuss the 'why' behind the child's answer and encourage them to research and dig deeper. This 'why' is the key to creating the teachable moment to better decode the world they live in.

Sometimes these questions and discussions can lead to questions that adults can't answer and this is the golden opportunity to model how to learn instead of what to learn! When you don't have the answer it gives kids the chance to learn alongside you: "That's a great question! Let's look it up together!" This builds confidence because it's ok that we don't always have all the answers. More importantly, it gives kids the sense of pride to learn that we are all life-long-learners.

OCEAN SOLUTION TEACHABLE MOMENT QUESTIONS

List your materials in the order of use. Describe how your original design materials changed based on trial and error.

How does the ability to clean our oceans and marine life affect humans?

What does oil contamination do to marine birds?

Paint a nice ocean floor without pollution. Start with the background and then add your wildlife.

If you were involved in an ocean oil spill cleanup what might you do to prepare?

How big of a team would be needed to deal with a spill? Why?

Who is responsible for the cost of the clean up?

How does the sound from ocean vessels affect marine life? Create a sound bite combining the beautiful ocean nature sounds and vessels.

Here are some swimmers workout ideas, challenge yourself and a family member to do it. 10 burpees. 20 lunges. 1 minute plank 20 Push Ups. 20 Squats.

Explain why oil floats on water. If a boom sinks down or floats does it change the barrier to oil? Why?

Explain how the thickness of the absorbent material could affect the amount of oil absorbed.

How does dish soap affect the oil collected on feathers/toys?