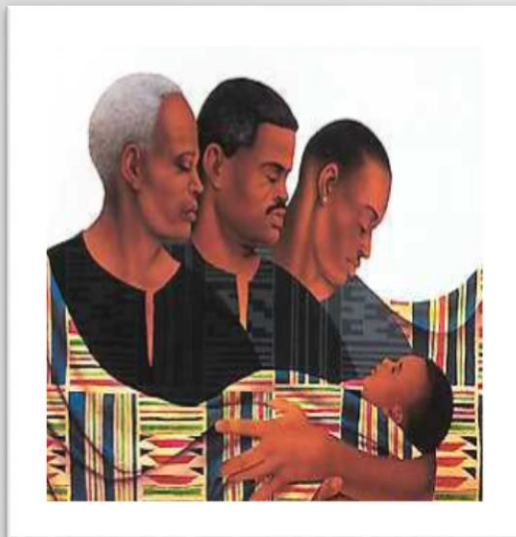


Parenting Behaviors and Skill Building

Chicago Fathers and Sons Project



Tips for Fathers



- ◆ **Be there:** Children want and need your presence, from infancy onward.

- ◆ **Listen:** Being there means more than being present physically.

- ◆ **Work together on behalf of your child, even if you're not living together.**
 - Learn to disagree appropriately with your son(s) mother.
 - Disagreement is a normal part of parenthood. It is how you resolve those differences that matters.

Tips for Fathers

◆ Get to know and be known to the people in your child's world.

- Teachers, caregivers, and doctors are important people.
- Get to know and be known to your children's friends and their parents.
- If you have concerns about who your child is hanging out with, be sure to discuss this with your child.



◆ Play with your children.

- One of the best ways to learn about and develop a lasting connection with your children is to enter their world by playing with them.

Tips for Fathers

◆ Teach by example.

- Children follow what you do more than what you say.



◆ Discipline with love.

- To discipline means to guide or lead out the best in your child, and that is best done with love.

◆ Keep your sense of humor.

Communication

◆ Break the ice:

- Ask questions like, “Is this a good time to talk?”
- Plan activities for you and your son together

◆ Awareness:

- Pay attention to teachable moments
- Listen effectively
- Ask specific questions and avoid questions that require a yes or no answer



Communication

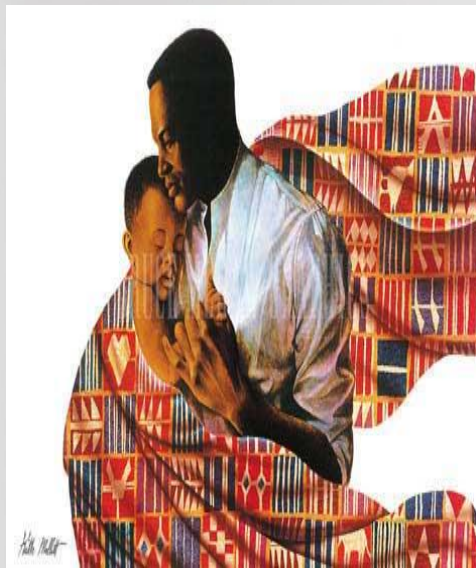
◆ Make a connection:

- Get involved in your child's school and/or social life
- Take advantage of talking during down time
- Look at baby pictures together
- Work on a project together like a hobby, building something, writing, drawing, etc.



2. Adapted from: *A Guide to Communication-Friendly Parenting*.
<http://www.greenbay.k12.wi.us/01/parents01/parentcomm.html>

**Nobody said fatherhood
would be easy...**



**If you can survive fatherhood,
you can survive anything!**

CREDITS

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- ◆ Photographs by [Unsplash](#)