

FIRST GRADE

THE PHASE
WHEN →

AND LIFE
BECOMES A STAGE



WHERE YOUR KID SHOUTS

UNFILTERED WORDS
MAKE YOU LAUGH,

←
HOMEWORK MAKES YOU CRY,

"LOOK AT ME."







GET READY FOR MEMORABLE STATEMENTS.

By this age, a child can talk in long, wandering monologues. Sometimes it may seem as if the only goal for conversation is to Just. Keep. Talking. But, you will be amazed and entertained by all the profound and uncensored things they say, like, “How did you get the wrinkles out of your hair?” and “You’re talking so much I can’t hear you.”

ADJUST FOR A CULTURAL SHIFT-SCHOOL.

This means less time for play, more early-morning alarm clocks, and a higher demand for focused attention. While kids at this age thrive on routine and predictability, they also crave opportunities to have a little unstructured play, a chance to skip and run, to throw and catch, and to use their imagination.

IT'S JUST A
PHASE

SO DON'T
MISS IT



YOUR ROLE IS TO
ENGAGE
THEIR INTERESTS

School is a crisis. Your now-elementary-school kid is adjusting to big changes, whether it's bus rides or lunch lines or new routines. But the stress of change can also be a platform for discovery and growth. The way you answer their questions, listen to their stories, and show up consistently will help them improve their abilities.

**THINKS LIKE
A SCIENTIST**

You help them learn when you...
GIVE CONCRETE EXAMPLES.

**WANTS TO KNOW,
"DO I HAVE YOUR
ATTENTION?"**

You capture their heart when you...
IMPROVE THEIR ABILITIES.

**IS MOTIVATED
BY FUN**

You coach their moral abilities when you...
PLAY ON THEIR LEVEL.



YOU CAN HELP YOUR KID GROW IN WISDOM, FAITH,
AND FRIENDSHIP.

When you **ENGAGE** your child's interests, you help them...

**TRUST GOD'S CHARACTER.
EXPERIENCE GOD'S FAMILY.**

Practically speaking, that means every week
you have an opportunity to...

**CONNECT WITH A FAITH COMMUNITY.
PRAY TOGETHER.**

**READ BIBLE STORIES AND ANSWER FAITH QUESTIONS.
REPEAT BASIC TRUTHS LIKE:**

"I can
trust God
no matter
what."

"I need to
make the
wise
choice."

"I should
treat others
the way I
want to be
treated."

You can do these things by taking advantage
of the time you already spend together.

**MORNING
TIME**

BE A COACH.

You instill purpose
when you start
the day with
encouraging words.

**DRIVE
TIME**

BE A FRIEND.

You interpret life
during informal
conversation as
you travel.

**MEAL
TIME**

BE A TEACHER.

You establish values
with intentional
conversation while
you eat together.

**BED
TIME**

**BE A
COUNSELOR.**

You strengthen
your relationship
through heart
conversations at the
end of the day.



YOUR KID IS CHANGING...

PHYSICALLY

- » Loses incisor teeth (6-8 years)
- » Draws a person with a body
- » Needs 10-12 hours of sleep each night

MENTALLY

- » Can focus on one activity for 5- 15 minutes
- » Beginning to understand ironic humor and tell simple jokes
- » Knows the difference between need vs. want and real vs. pretend
- » Doesn't logically interpret cause and effect

RELATIONALLY

- » Wants to please and help others
- » Has a hard time asking for help
- » Needs guidance taking turns and losing well

EMOTIONALLY

- » May display extreme emotions
- » Tends to be optimistic
- » Needs to experience moderate challenges and success
- » Highly sensitive to harsh criticism, tone, and body language

PHASE:

A TIMEFRAME

IN A KID'S LIFE WHEN YOU CAN

LEVERAGE

DISTINCTIVE OPPORTUNITIES TO INFLUENCE

THEIR FUTURE



YOU HAVE 624 WEEKS AND COUNTING...

IT'S JUST A
PHASE
SO DON'T MISS IT



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