

INITIATIVE

DEFINE IT:

INITIATIVE MEANS I TAKE CHARGE IN STARTING A TASK WHICH NEEDS TO BE DONE, WITHOUT BEING TOLD OR REMINDED. INITIATIVE IS THE BASIS OF GOOD STEWARDSHIP AND ATTENTIVENESS, BECAUSE IT ALLOWS US TO LOOK OUTSIDE OURSELVES AND BECOME AWARE OF WHAT IS NEEDED.



TALK ABOUT IT:

✓ **CAN YOU RECALL A TIME WHEN SOMEBODY DID SOMETHING NICE FOR YOU WITHOUT YOU ASKING? DISCUSS HOW THAT PERSON TOOK INITIATIVE AND HOW IT FELT TO BE ON THE RECEIVING END.**



✓ **WHAT KIND OF OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE FOR YOU TO ACT WITH INITIATIVE AT HOME? IN SCHOOL? WHEN OUT AND ABOUT?**

✓ **WHAT DO YOU THINK WILL BE THE IMMEDIATE GRATIFICATION FROM HAVING INITIATIVE? WHAT WILL BE THE LONG TERM GRATIFICATION?**

CONTINUE...

✓ **DISCUSS HOW THE WORD 'INITIATIVE' AND 'INITIATE' SOUND SIMILAR. TALK ABOUT HOW "TO INITIATE" MEANS "TO START," AND HOW IT IMPLIES TAKING ACTION. IN THE SAME WAY, IN ORDER TO HAVE INITIATIVE YOU MUST TAKE ACTION TOWARDS A DETERMINED NEED, WITHOUT BEING TOLD.**



TEACH IT :

PARENT: INITIATIVE IS TAUGHT BY CREATING EXPERIENCES AND RELATIONSHIPS THAT HELP KIDS DEVELOP A PROACTIVE MINDSET, WHILE CONSIDERING THE NEEDS THAT EXIST OUTSIDE OF THEM.

OTHER CHARACTER TRAITS ASSOCIATED OR RELATED TO INITIATIVE ARE HONOR, GRATITUDE, ALERTNESS, ATTENTIVENESS.



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IN LIFE:

YOU CAN USE THE ACTUAL WORD 'INITIATIVE' IN ORDER TO CREATE AN ANCHOR THAT WILL TRIGGER INITIATIVE IN OTHERS.

FOR EXAMPLE, EVERY TIME YOU SAY THE WORD INITIATIVE, EACH MEMBER OF THE FAMILY STOPS AND BECOMES AWARE OF ANYTHING THAT NEEDS TO BE DONE AND DOES IT.

YOU DON'T DESCRIBE THE WORD OR REMIND THEM OF WHAT IT IS. YOU SIMPLY SAY THE WORD AND THEY CREATE AN INTERNAL REMINDER TO ACT OUT WITH INITIATIVE.

IN CONSEQUENCE:

"LISA, DID YOU TAKE OUT THE TRASH?"

"YES, MOMMY. I SAW THE TRASH PICKUP SCHEDULE ON THE REFRIGERATOR AND REALIZED THE TRUCK COMES TOMORROW."

"THANK YOU, LISA, I FORGOT THE TRUCK COMES TOMORROW. YOU REALLY TOOK ACTION AND SAVED US A STINKY WEEK."

✓ POST THE TRASH PICKUP SCHEDULE AND DISCUSS THE IMPORTANCE OF MAKING SURE THE GARBAGE GOES IN THE BINS AND THE BINS GO TO THE CURB.

✓ ASK WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF THE GARBAGE IS NOT TAKEN OUT ON TIME.

✓ GIVE PRAISE AND GRATITUDE FOR TAKING POSITIVE ACTION.

✓ IF LACK OF INITIATIVE CONTINUES TO BE A REPEATED ACTION, INQUIRE FROM YOUR CHILD WHAT WOULD BE AN APPROPRIATE CONSEQUENCE AND AGREE UPON IT. IE: "LISA AFTER THE NEXT TRASH PICK UP, YOU WILL HAVE TO SCRUB OUT THE BINS." GET A PERSONAL COMMITMENT TO FUTURE CONSIDERATION OF INITIATIVE AND REAFFIRM YOUR CHILD THAT HE/SHE IS A PERSON WITH INITIATIVE.

INITIATIVE

IN THE KITCHEN:

AT THE BEGINNING OF YOUR FAMILY MEAL, ANNOUNCE THAT DURING THIS TIME EVERYONE WILL PRACTICE INITIATIVE AND PASS THE CONDIMENTS, DISHES, UTENSILS OR BEVERAGES BEFORE A PERSON MAY POSSIBLY ASK FOR THEM.

IN ORDER FOR THIS TO BE SUCCESSFUL, EACH FAMILY MEMBER WILL BECOME SENSIBLY AWARE OF THE NEEDS OF OTHERS.

COMMENT ON HOW IT TAKES YOUR SENSE OF SIGHT TO NOTICE WHO NEEDS WHAT. AT THE END OF THE MEAL, EACH PERSON TAKES INITIATIVE BY PICKING UP THEIR PLATES AND CONDIMENTS WITHOUT BEING TOLD.

DECLARE IT:

I AM A PERSON OF INITIATIVE.
I TAKE INITIATIVE BY BECOMING AWARE OF MY SURROUNDINGS AND FULFILLING WHATEVER NEEDS TO BE DONE.
I HAVE INITIATIVE.

APPLY IT:

SET THE INTENTION TO ACT WITH INITIATIVE AND POINT OUT TO OTHERS WHEN THEY ARE TAKING INITIATIVE.