

Financial Literacy for Kids

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TIPS FOR TEACHING KIDS ABOUT CHARITY

It's never too early to teach your children the value of empathy, volunteering, and charitable giving of one's resources. Teaching kids about charitable giving and empathy is rewarding for the whole family. Below are four tips to get you started in your lessons.

1. INTRODUCE EMPATHY AT A YOUNG AGE

Very young children often don't realize that other people have feelings, ideas, and emotions of their own. You can help children along in the following ways:

- Talk about how others feel
- Suggest how to help others
- Read stories about feelings
- Teach self-awareness by using "I" statements

2. SET A GOOD EXAMPLE

It's important for parents to create a family environment where giving is natural and encouraged.

- Dropping money into charity boxes.
- Pick out canned foods for a food drive.
- Participate in a walk for a cause you care about.
- Write cards to the elderly.

3. EXPLORE ALL THE DIFFERENT WAYS TO GIVE

There are over 1.5 million non-profit organizations in the U.S. alone, each of which rely on different levels of time, talents, and money. Research with your children and talk about the importance of each of these different

- Set up a charity box in the home for loose change and toys clothes they've outgrown
- It's also a good idea to teach your little ones that donating time is often just as powerful as donating money and things.

4. INVOLVE CHILDREN IN VOLUNTEER AND CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

It's easier for younger children to understand more direct and concrete examples of charitable giving. They know they love their favorite toys, so you can explain to them that not everyone is fortunate to have toys to play with. Set up a charity box in the home for loose change and toys clothes they've outgrown. Making philanthropic donations a regular activity around the house will reinforce charitable values in your children's lives.

Read the original article written by Madison Dupaix on The Balance financial blog:
<https://www.thebalance.com/how-to-teach-kids-about-charity-2085333>

