

Expert Shares Five Tips to Keep Your Kids from Cheating

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Wednesday, 01 December 2010 10:34 - Last Updated Thursday, 02 December 2010 11:25

Did you know 74% of high-school students have admitted to cheating on exams? Veteran educator, Dr. Michael Hartnett gives all the moms' out there a few tips to prevent your child from cheating.



1. Hartnett advises to check your child's homework daily. It's a great way to keep track of what your kids are learning and can be a good indicator to whether their work is of substance. Don't fall for the continuous, "I didn't have homework tonight." That gets old, fast and many teenagers get away with not doing their work night after night promoting cheating habits.
2. Creating a "device-free zone" is another great way to prevent cheating says Hartnett. In this day in age, many teenagers are addicted to the various outlets of communication making cheating an easier option. Removing internet and cell phones for an least an hour a day from a study environment, can make a world of a difference. Children will be able to concentrate on one assignment without distractions, closing any opportunity to cheat.
3. According to Hartnett, another great way to prevent your child from cheating is to give practice tests the day before an exam. Using this technique, you'll be able to see if your child is truly engaging with the material. You'll be able to tell from their answers if cheating is a playing factor.
4. Talking to your teenagers about cheating and its consequences is the most obvious way to prevent it, but does it work? According to Hartnett, it does. The best stance a parent or guardian can take when bringing up this topic, is to acknowledge that cheating is a common issue. Ask your kids to be exceptional rather than conforming to what the other kids do. This will show that you as a parent, are committed to making their educational experience worthwhile.
5. Another tip from Hartnett is to avoid using cliches like, "You know if you cheat, you are only cheating yourself." It's hard for a child to understand this concept when they see so many others around them prosper from cheating.

Hartnett has an extensive educational background as a high-school English teacher, college professor and SAT instructor and tutor for over 20 years. He is the author of *The Great SAT Swindle*. For more information on Harnett, visit <http://www.MichaelHartnett.net>