Help your child discover what they are good at and what they like. Provide opportunities to try different activities. Resource: Kentucky Recreation Guide	
Work with your child's school and your community to make sure your child grows, learns and participates with children with and without disabilities, to the greatest extent possible, and with principles and strategies of universal design in mind.	
Look for opportunities to help your child and their friends learn about and celebrate differences by reading books and showing videos to classes about how to be a good friend. Resource: Just Like You videos	
Help your child learn ways to effectively communicate with others, and help others know the best way to communicate with your child. Be open to different forms of communication (assistive technology, sign language).	
Help educators and others understand, focus on, and support your child as a person with strengths, interests, preferences and needs, particularly in the development of their IEP. Resource: Vision Statement for Children.	
Help your child and others understand that they are a person with a unique identity, and that their disability is part of their identity. Focus on things that help them grow and develop instead of on things that attempt to "fix" them.	
Connect with other families, adults with disabilities, and advocacy groups in your area. Encourage your child to connect with a local meet an adult with a disability who they can relate to. Resource: Kentucky Disability Resource Guide	
Develop skills that will be useful for jobs, such as using technology, reading, and drawing.	
Teach your child the importance of work by giving them age and developmentally appropriate chores to do at home. Use picture charts, social stories, break tasks into smaller steps, and model how to do the tasks. Consider providing an age appropriate allowance or reward for their work.	
Teach your child the basics about different kinds of jobs, particularly ones that interest them. Pretend play, read together and research different kinds of jobs.	
Teach your child about different ways to get around in the community, including public transportation if available. Help them learn and practice needed skills	



Kentucky Checklist for a Bright Future: 6-10 Years Old

For parents of students with disabilities



- Get advice on whether your child may qualify for available waivers and services, and find out if there are waiting lists. Resource: Kentucky Disability Resource Guide
- Set up an ABLE account for long-term savings. Resource: <u>Stable Kentucky</u>



Resources for a Bright Future: 6-10 Years Old

For parents of students with disabilities



- Kentucky Disability Resource Guide: resources.hdiuky.org/
- Just Like You videos: justlikeyoufilms.org
- Vision Statement for Children: https://www.kentuckyworks.org/2018/08/07/brighter-futures-vision-statement/
- Kentucky Protection and Advocacy: kypa.net
- Best Practices in Self-Advocacy Skill Building: <u>parentcenterhub.org/priority-selfadvocacy/</u>
- STABLE Accounts in Kentucky: stablekentucky.com
- HDI Children's Book: You Can Do So Many Things by Kathy Sheppard-Jones

