

18 Handy Tips for Family Education

Tip 15: When kids are obsessed? (Dialogue Script)

Docudrama 1: DON'Ts	
Father:	Son, why are you still in uniform after being back from school for so long?
Siu-wai:	I'll change it later.
Father:	Why haven't you put your schoolbag in place?
Siu-wai:	I'll take care of it in a moment.
Father:	How long have you been back?
Siu-wai:	Around two to three hours I guess...
Father:	You are back for such a long time, and yet all the time you are just playing video games with neither your clothes changed nor homework done.
Siu-wai:	I'm playing, Dad!
Father:	Take the schoolbag to your room right now. Change clothes and do your homework. All you do is playing games all day and you don't eat or sleep. Now your game player is confiscated and you should never play again without my permission.
Siu-wai:	Fine! I won't play it! I couldn't care less!
Expert Advice	
Prof. Wong Po-choi:	When kids are watching TV or playing video games, their mind are distracted and for sure they won't hear a word of parents. This is not the time to teach, and scolding would be worse and harmful to your relationship. So parents should calm down and try to get kids' attention before you teach. Kids do not intend to misbehave. They are just unable to control themselves. If we set a plan for them, their time-management intelligence could be enhanced.
Docudrama 2: DOs	
Father:	Siu-wai, dad wants to have a word with you. Would you stop for a moment and turn off the player?
Siu-wai:	What's up?
Father:	Dad's worried about you.
Siu-wai:	About what?

- Father: I found you spending a lot of time playing video games every day. Say, for now, you don't get changed after school and don't do your homework. Obviously playing games has already affected your life and learning. Dad was just like you when I was small, watching TV the whole day. My class teacher told my mum that if the situation continued I'd become a slave of TV. My teacher asked my mum to think of a solution. Later my mum threw the TV away.
- Siu-wai: How could she do that?
- Father: Now you're getting more obsessed with games. If you go on like this, you'd become a slave of it. I'd discussed with Mum and decided that from today on, you should stop playing video games for two weeks so that you can have a normal life. I know you'd be upset, but Dad has to protect you and cannot allow video games to take up all your time. Let's work out a timetable together to give you more time for other things. If you are able to follow your normal routine in two weeks, you could play the games for a while each week. Now change your clothes and finish homework. Spare some time for reading after dinner tonight. You should take a shower and go to bed at ten. Now get changed.
- Siu-wai: Got it, Dad.