It Starts at Home

Children and television

Parents may have questions or need information on how television affects their children. Here are some facts about television that teachers may want to share with families.

The good

- Television can be educational!
- Studies show television can increase children's vocabulary.
- Television provides opportunities for children to learn about a great variety of topics, such as nature, technology, science and art.
- Television is one of the easiest ways to make people aware of current issues, such as pollution and homelessness.

The bad

- Children who watch violent TV shows may become less sensitive to the pain and suffering of others.
- They may become more fearful of the world around them.
- They may be more likely to behave in a violent or aggressive manner.

Tips for parents

- Monitor how much television your child watches.
- Choose appropriate programs. Allow your child to watch shows that he or she will enjoy, but that are also age appropriate.
- Talk with your child about the programs. Ask them about the difference between reality and makebelieve. Talk about anything that may have scared your child.
- Do other activities with your child that you both enjoy, such as going for walks or out on the land, telling stories, reading books, playing a sport, and playing with friends.

For more information on television visit:

http://childdevelopmentinfo.com/family-living/kids-media-safety/television/



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