



**SOUTH TULSA
ACADEMY**
est. 2021

The Measure of Your Smile

As a University-Model® parent it is easy to quickly feel bombarded with what seems to be a never-ending daily task list. Parents feel the pressures of the dirty dishes, dirty floors, and dirty children... all while simultaneously feeling the pressure of leading, guiding, and supporting their children in their satellite studies. Meanwhile, there are deadlines, emails, text messages, and an allure of social media feeds refreshing. With all the non-stop interruptions we can fall into a stressful state and often feel overwhelmed by the ever-present and persistent distractions. Pressure can lead to frustration and frustration can be contagious. As believers, we should not be surprised. As parents, God provided us an incredible invitation to model a life that our children can follow and learn from. All behaviors and emotions have an enormous effect on our children and are likely to be mirrored.

One creative, no-cost to you tool that I discovered over the summer is a tool that I coined as the “smile measurement.” It simply involves using an assessment of asking myself, *how many times did I smile with my child today?* With three kids, the oldest of whom is following a homeschool preschool curriculum, I use this tool frequently to assess the temperature and focus of our satellite days. As in all things parenting related, I never carry out my plans as perfectly as I hope. But I truly take comfort in knowing that I worship a heavenly Father whose eyes are always on me (Psalm 121:7-8) and whose heart is always for me (Psalm 103:17). Try evaluating your “smile meter” throughout the day and remember that “A cheerful look brings joy to the heart;” (Proverbs 15:30) for EVERYONE!

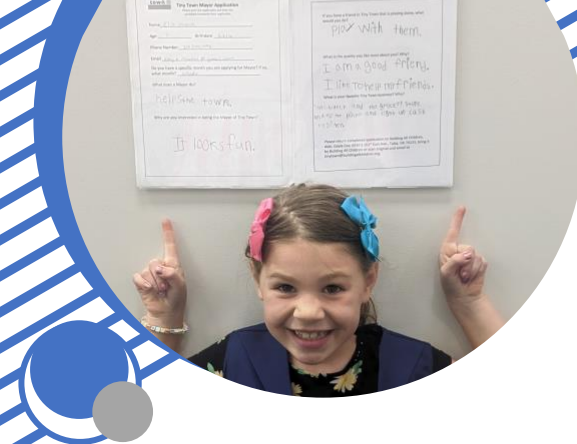
How many times did you smile with your child today?

Written by Katie Neafus



Did you know?

ClassReach Mobile Application now allows users to keep up to date on what is going on in our school. Users can set up push notifications to any of their devices so that they can be instantly updated on activities within their ClassReach account. For info: support.classreach.com/documentation/mobile-application-overview/



Congratulations to Elise Mullins, *Building All Children's Tiny Town Mayor!*

“Displaying important content information...can be one important way to help students remember what they have learned and apply it more independently.”

Students often need a visual reminder of vocabulary or concepts they are learning throughout their school day. Displaying important content information (i.e. vocabulary, formulas, steps for learning, graphic organizers, and learning prompts) can be one important way to help students remember what they have learned and apply it more independently. One way to do this is by creating a Word Wall, which gives students constant access to academic vocabulary so that they can more easily recall and utilize the words in their writing and speech.

Steps for making a Word Wall of your satellite learning classroom: 1. Select a location your child can see easily from where he or she completes his or her school work.

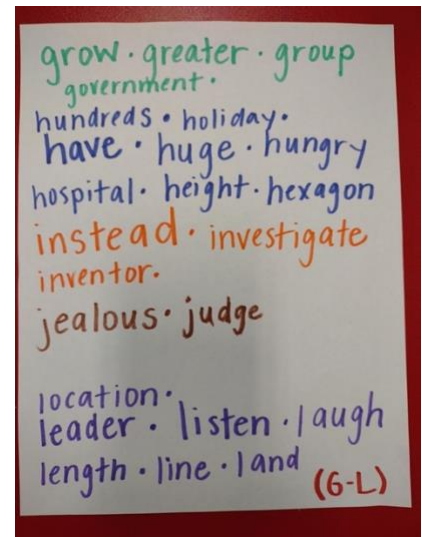
Post about 5 sheets of paper on the wall/table/bulletin board, etc. Label each sheet with a portion of the alphabet (if you use 5 sheets, you can label them A-E, F-J, K-O, P-T, U-Z). 2. Add words to the papers each week as your child learns new words.

Group words by the letter they start with so students can find them easily. Use words they are learning across the curriculum that they will need to remember or reference later.

Word walls in lower grades can consist of sight words and frequently used words, while the word selection for the upper grades usually consists of content specific words and concepts (i.e. condensation, variable expression, theme). This list of [Academic Vocabulary](#) by grade level posted by the state department

of education is a little dated but most of the grade specific vocabulary remains valid.

Word Walls, by Mrs. Ward



(above)
This example of a word wall page shows some sample words starting with the letters G-L for a first-grade student.

“Group words by the letter they start with so students can find them easily.”

October's Character Trait is FAITHFULNESS

To begin your focus on *faithfulness*, pray with your children and let God know how much you see and appreciate His faithfulness. 2 Samuel 22:26-37|Psalm 57:9-11|Psalm 89:1-2, 5-8
Faithfulness | Kids of Integrity, 2012 Focus on the Family (Canada) Association



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