

Understanding Your Child's Personality

Considering what motivates your child's thoughts and actions can help you bond.

Use these summarized definitions to better understand, communicate with and nurture your child. These descriptions are not an exact science and may not apply to children who have special needs. Use them as a general guide.

Future Performers – They love people and new experiences; relish excitement and drama.

Future Doers – They are willing to get their hands dirty. They look at the facts of a situation, quickly decide what should be done, and execute the action before moving on to the next task.

Future Nurturers – They are kind-hearted and want to believe the best about people. They value harmony and cooperation, and are likely to be very sensitive to other people's feelings.

Future Duty Fulfillers – They are quiet and reserved and interested in security and peaceful living. They have a strong sense of duty and are organized and methodical in their approach.

Future Inspirers – They live in a world of possibilities and can become very passionate about an issue. They easily motivate others and strive to make the most out of life.

Future Visionaries – They are constantly absorbing ideas and images about the situations in their lives. They are usually accurate in their ability to size up a situation.

Future Protectors – They are gentle, caring, artistic and creative. They put a lot of energy into identifying the best system for getting things done, and constantly re-define their priorities.

Future Scientists – They value intelligence, knowledge, and competence, and typically have high standards in these regards, which they continuously strive to fulfill.

Future Givers – They understand and care about people, and have a special talent for bringing out the best in others. Their main interest in life is understanding, supporting, and encouraging others.

Future Caregivers – They love people and have a special skill at bringing out the best in others. They take their responsibilities seriously and are dependable.

Future Idealists – They are focused on making the world a better place for people. Their primary goal is to find out their meaning in life so they can help others and make the world a better place.

Future Artists – They are in tune with how things look and feel and are unusually gifted at creating and composing things that strongly affect the senses.

Future Executives – They have a drive for leadership, can absorb a large amount of impersonal information and make quick and decisive judgments. They are "take charge" people.

Future Guardians – They constantly scan their personal environment to make sure everything is running smoothly. They honor traditions and laws, and have a clear set of standards and beliefs.

Future Mechanics – They have a drive to understand the way things work. They're good at logical analysis and thrive on action. They are usually fearless.

This information was adapted from www.PersonalityPage.com, a Web site created and maintained by BSM Consulting, Inc, of Golden, Colorado.

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The Personality Questionnaire for Kids is a tool parents and other adults can use to understand what an individual child values and how he or she interacts with the world. This allows you to support your child's healthy development. A sampling of questions is featured here for your use. This isn't a test, and there are no right or wrong answers! If you're unable to respond to any of the questions, watch your child more closely, or start a conversation, and get to know your child better. Use what you learn to help your child feel loved.

Personality Questionnaire for Kids

When my child has done a good job at something, does he/she

- know that he/she has done well, and does not need praise to reinforce this
- know that he/she has done well, but seek praise to affirm
- need for someone to praise him/her before they realize that they've done well

When meeting new people, my child is more likely to

- be shy until he/she gets to know them
- be friendly and unafraid, and enjoy meeting strangers
- observe from the sidelines for a short while, and then be friendly and unafraid

In school, my child prefers

- Math
- Science
- Writing or English
- Art

When he/she is doing homework, my child is

- tolerant of distractions, such as TV and other people talking
- irritated by distractions, and prefers to work alone

When my child is really interested in something (for example, a tree or new experience), he/she is more likely to

- ask a million questions about all of the details related to their interest, such as 'How many leaves are on that tree?' and 'How tall is the tree?'
- ask a few deep, thoughtful questions about their interest, such as 'Where did trees come from?'

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