

词汇: *learning* 学习

Children are naturally **curious**, **inquisitive** beings, but getting them to study something they aren't interested in can be a difficult **task**. Teachers and parents often find themselves **resorting to** rewards in the form of stars, promises of high grades and wonderful careers, or threats of punishment. But what if rewards and threats aren't the answer?

Natural curiosity is sometimes referred to as '**intrinsic** motivation'. Studies have found that children who see learning as fun and important are better at it. And it's easy to understand why – it's difficult to study something we aren't engaged with, and if we're passionate about the **info** we're **digesting**, it feels more **fulfilling**.

**Extrinsic** motivation, things like rewards and punishment, does have its uses too. **Praise** and stimulation based on achieving good grades or fear of **reprisal** has been acknowledged to motivate older students. However, it seems that at an early age, it doesn't have as much effect. So, if it's the case that natural curiosity is motivation for better learning, how can we stimulate that interest?

According to some experts, the key is to allow some **degree** of **autonomy** and freedom. Let the child see their learning as their **free will**. If you want to teach a child to read, let them choose which book they use. Whether it's a graphic novel, TV guide or classic literature – the aim of stimulating their **appetite** for reading is still met. Likewise, build a relationship with them as learners – listen to their negative feelings. Explain why an activity is valuable, even if it isn't exactly fun.

So it seems that the key to motivating children, especially the young ones, might come from stimulating that intrinsic motivation. Maybe it's time to **unleash** them from the reigns of threats and rewards, and give them a bit more choice of how they learn.

## 词汇表

<b>curious</b>	好奇的
<b>inquisitive</b>	好问的, 求知欲强的
<b>task</b>	任务
<b>resort to</b>	采用, 诉诸于
<b>intrinsic</b>	内在的, 固有的
<b>info</b>	信息
<b>digest</b>	吸收, 理解 (信息)
<b>fulfilling</b>	让人感到满足、有意义的
<b>extrinsic</b>	外部的, 外在的
<b>praise</b>	表扬, 赞美
<b>reprisal</b>	报复, 惩罚
<b>degree</b>	程度
<b>autonomy</b>	自主
<b>free will</b>	自愿
<b>appetite</b>	欲望, 渴求
<b>unleash</b>	释放, 解除束缚

## 测验与练习

### 1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. What is sometimes referred to as intrinsic motivation?
2. True or False? *It's easy to study things we aren't interested in.*
3. What type of students can benefit from praise and talks of good grades?
4. If you want to teach reading, what should the child read?
5. Why should you listen to a child's negative feelings about learning?

### 2. 选择意思恰当的单词或词组来完成下列句子。

1. Don't \_\_\_\_\_ to offers of sweets – that doesn't motivate her at all!

resort	curious	appetite	praise
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2. I'm just trying to \_\_\_\_\_ what you've just told me.

appetite	digest	autonomy	degree
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3. You need to \_\_\_\_\_ all of that potential. Have you tried meditating?

praise	appetite	unleash	resort
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4. If you give someone \_\_\_\_\_, they can choose what they learn.

digest	degree	curious	autonomy
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5. Thank you for the \_\_\_\_\_, but it wasn't necessary.

praise	curious	resort	unleash
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答案

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. What is sometimes referred to as intrinsic motivation?

**Natural curiosity is sometimes referred to as intrinsic motivation.**

2. True or False? *It's easy to study things we aren't interested in.*

**False. It is difficult to study things we aren't interested in or engaged with.**

3. What type of students can benefit from praise and talks of good grades?

**Usually, this type of extrinsic motivation is more beneficial to older students.**

4. If you want to teach reading, what should the child read?

**Anything that the child finds interesting – be it a graphic novel, TV guide or classic literature.**

5. Why should you listen to a child's negative feelings about learning?

**You should listen to their negative feelings to build a relationship with them as learners. Explain why an activity is valuable, even if it isn't exactly fun.**

2. 选择意思恰当的单词或词组来完成下列句子。

1. Don't **resort** to offers of sweets – that doesn't motivate her at all!

2. I'm just trying to **digest** what you've just told me.

3. You need to **unleash** all of that potential. Have you tried meditating?

4. If you give someone **autonomy**, they can choose what they learn.

5. Thank you for the **praise**, but it wasn't necessary.