



Lower School Update

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As February approaches, many of us associate the month with valentines and love. As we think about love, how can we increase our child's love of learning? Parents have a great opportunity to help each child maintain their love of learning by developing a variety of interests.

Children can be passionate about dinosaurs, sports history, game figures or even geology. They enjoy categorizing, collecting and creating a world of knowledge about their interest. My own sons knew all the transformations of the Pokemon, not because we worked on the skill, but they enjoyed learning them with their friends.

So how might we promote interest with our children? Try introducing your child to something that is new, has some complexity, but is still on their level. Exposing them to a wide variety of topics is a good way to start.

What was your passion as a Lower School child? You might have written a small book, enjoyed painting, wanted to know all the animals that live in woods or kept an eye on every baseball player's batting average. Chances are that may be interesting to your child as well. The trick to helping build a interest is that helping your child a little with hints—but not the answers—will get them excited to learn more.

Modeling an interest helps children see that learning doesn't stop but is a lifelong journey to be enjoyed by all. Maybe you have that old stamp collection in the closet... (What's a stamp? Just kidding!)... you may find a new interest from a bygone era.