

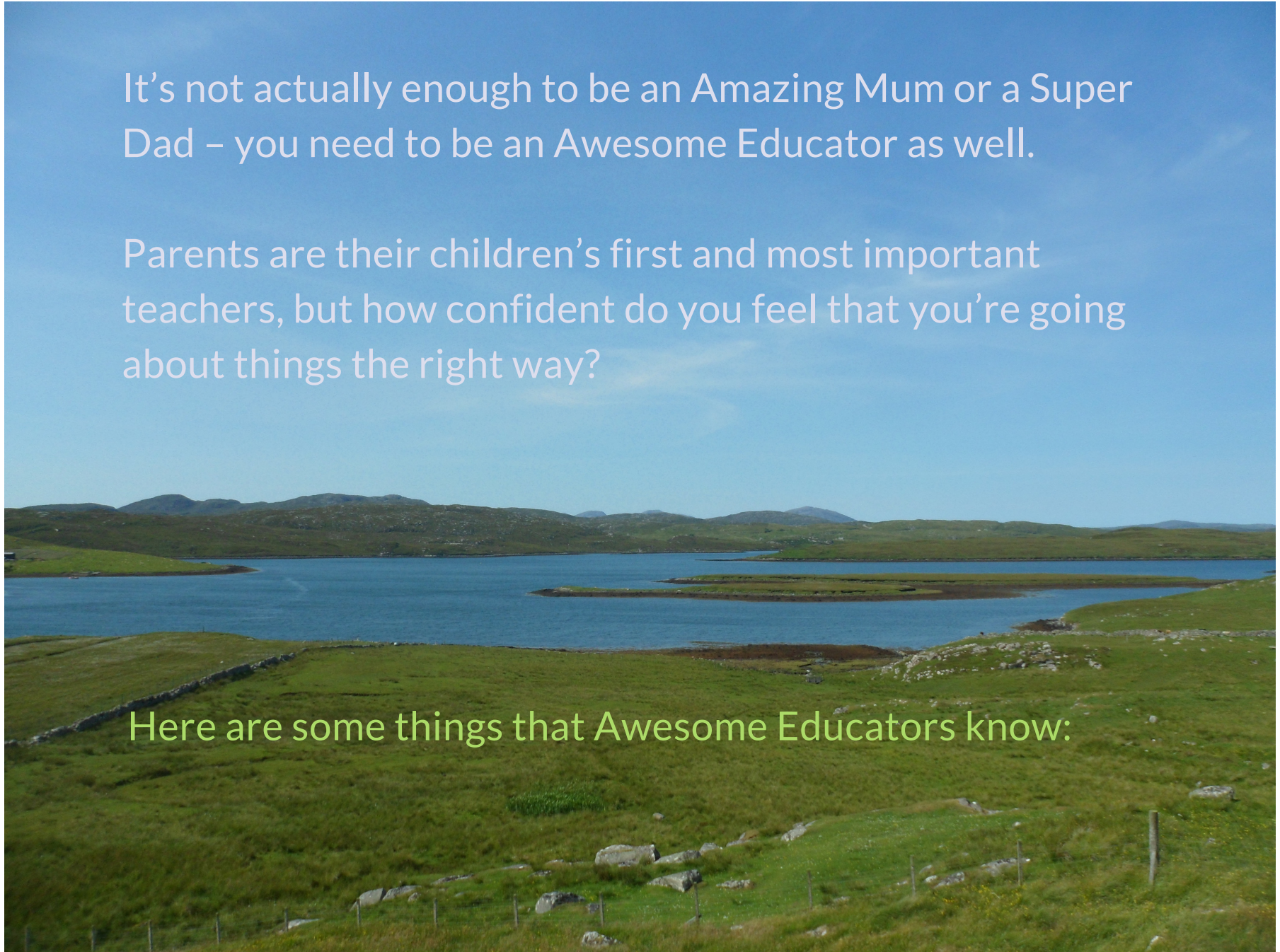
How to become an Awesome Educator!



It's not actually enough to be an Amazing Mum or a Super Dad – you need to be an Awesome Educator as well.

Parents are their children's first and most important teachers, but how confident do you feel that you're going about things the right way?

Here are some things that Awesome Educators know:



You need to ensure freedom to explore

Children don't learn so much from what adults try to teach them as from what they discover by themselves. They need to be free to engage with their environment on their own terms.





You need to
show,
rather than tell

Pre-school children focus best on one thing at a time. They're very keen observers but their comprehension skills are still limited, so if you're talking to them it's hard for them to watch what you're doing as well. They catch on better if they're shown rather than told. And when you're showing them something, try and slow your movements down. If you focus your own attention fully on what you're doing they will focus as well.

It's best to keep things simple

One thing at a time works best. This applies to instructions, explanations, activities, carrying things, and tidying up. Think about the difference between saying 'You need to tidy up!' and 'Why don't you put all your books on the shelf.' This is a more specific task. The child can visualise what needs to be done and is more able to do it.



Leave him alone to concentrate



If they can't concentrate children can't learn effectively. Modern life does not favour concentration. Our own attention and our children's attention is constantly being broken, interrupted, distracted or re-focused on something else.

Under sixes have an internal drive to concentrate and when left in peace can show an amazing ability to spend ages involved in activities they've chosen. Nurture concentration when you see it, value it and absolutely don't interrupt it.



Let her move

Whenever your small daughter is moving she's forming vital connections in her brain. The more her movements are hampered the fewer connections she'll make.

When she repeats a movement, or an action, or an activity she's consolidating the neural pathways and reinforcing what she's learnt.

All learning is more effective if there's movement involved, so the more she is moving the more she's learning and developing her brain power.

....and repeat

As adults we're terrified of boredom, but pre-school children like the familiarity of things that are known and predictable and like to do the same things over and over again. So if she wants the same story, even though you're sick to death of it, remember she benefits from the repetition as you read it for the hundredth time.





Learn more!

If you're excited about learning how to support your child's development in the early years and become an Awesome Educator, think about taking a course with us.

All our courses are built on the solid understanding that the Montessori approach to education brings to child development. Exploring Montessori theories of child development will give you much greater insight and knowledge about why your child is doing what she's doing, and give you loads of practical information about how you can best support her learning at any given stage. Visit our website now for more information: www.montessoripartnership.com