

Chess teaches kids 20 of life's lessons

1. Follow The Masters through Books or videos or their biographies on TV like A&E or E!. Whatever skill you want to learn or already have.
2. Birds of a Feather flock together, you become like the people you hang out with. Be careful whom you hang out with, only hang out with positive-minded people and like-minded goals. Negative people will hold you back, pull you down and definitely prevent you from achieving your goals.
3. Work within the Rules, Rules create order and order creates a safe environment for people to live, succeed and be happy. Working within a set of rules makes you smarter and more creative. It forces you to find answers and solutions when things don't line up your way. If you're going to win the game of life, you have to understand the rules. You have to know the penalties associated with breaking those rules, and the rewards for following them. Every time you make a choice between following a rule, or ignoring it to do what you want, you are really making a choice between order and disorder.
4. Perfect Practice, The old saying of Practice makes perfect is incorrect. **Perfect** Practice makes Perfect. The **Quality of time** spent is **more important** than the amount of time spent Practice should be as much **a process of thought** as a process of actions. **Simple actions repeated on a daily basis help develop the right habits and eliminating the wrong ones.** Habits don't form by themselves, but you can help keep them from forming. Build on the good ones and tear down the bad ones.
5. Watch the Moves Other People Make, Never underestimate Your Opponent at any time. Most wares were lost and bad guys get away because of underestimating their opponents. **You can't control the wind but you can control the set of your sails.**
6. Respect Your Opponents. Competition is everywhere, all of the time, especially in today's world. For jobs, resources, in

classrooms, in sports, everywhere. In winning you can become their teacher, in losing, you learn to be humble.

7. Visualize, **visualize things first before making decisions.** Everything starts in your mind. If you imagine yourself doing something well, you are more likely to actually achieve that level of skill. Visualization is a technique that is used by successful people in all fields because they know how powerful it is.
8. Know Your Strengths and Weaknesses. One of our purposes in life is to discover where we have skill and where we lack it. Some people have more than one skill, multiple skills where others may only have 1 or 2 and have a difficult time discovering what they are.
9. Go the Extra Mile in everything you do and you will never be disappointed with the results. Nobody can push you as hard to accomplish as much as you can push yourself to achieve. Pushing yourself to become skilled at almost anything worthwhile takes time and discipline and a lot of hard work. **Self Education works wonders. Work harder on yourself to improve.**
10. Always Look for a Better Move. We often act before we've even thought about our options. Sometimes we don't even realize that we have options. Sometimes the best move is actually no move at all. Start looking more deeply into your life options. Creative decision-making will take you to places you never dreamed. Develop that creativity by always looking for as many options as you can.
11. Every Action Has a Consequence. Every move you make influences another move, maybe not immediately but somewhere down the road that initial decision will come back and either open or slam shut another option. Positive actions, good moves will eventually lead to positive outcomes. Negative actions or bad moves, will eventually lead to negative outcomes. Either way there will always be some effect. Choose your actions carefully, and do your best to make sure that your choices are positive ones. Sooner or later, you will feel the effects.

12. **The Right Move at the Right Time.** Life gives us wonderful opportunities, but we don't take advantage of them until it's too late. Knowing what moves to make isn't enough. You have to know when to make them. You may have been on to something, but timing is always part of the bigger picture. Timing is Everything! Sometimes it's not that your moves are bad, but the point at which you choose to make them was wrong, Timing is Everything!

13. **Think Strategically.** The most successful people in the world all have something very simple in common: they plan. **You have to set goals then move towards them one step at a time.** You should always have a plan or a game plan, this gives you direction to follow. Otherwise you're going to wander aimlessly, hoping that things will work themselves out. If you continue to do what you've always done, then you're going to get what you've always got. If you want things to change then **YOU** have to change. The bottom line is that a strategy, a plan, gives you control. Control leads to confidence. Confidence leads to success.

14. **Learn From Losing.** Losing never feels good, but most people don't understand is that it doesn't have to be a bad feeling either. The effect that losing has on you depends on your attitude. Attitude is the scale you use to weigh the events that you experience. If your scale is out of balance, all of your measurements will be off. Approach your whole life in the way that your failures and losses are really just opportunities in disguise - opportunities to learn, to grow and improve. It's better to lose and learn something than to win and learn nothing.

15. **Recognize Patterns.** Patterns are like body language. Body language gives a great indicator of what is getting ready to happen. But only if you're paying attention.

16. **Use All Your Resources.** **Books are the greatest resource of all.** It's very important to stop, think, and figure out how to make the best use of what you have available.

17. **Work Together.** Team concepts usually work out better than individuals. Each member will bring their own individual strengths, abilities and knowledge to the job. The more tightly, cooperatively

and efficiently the group works together, the more likely their combined skills will add up, and the more likely that they'll cover each other's weaknesses.

18. **Concentrate.** Albert Einstein was one of the smartest people who ever lived. The secret to his successes was not only because of his high IQ but his remarkable **ability to concentrate and stay focused**. The first step is to be patient and calm. Don't become anxious or impatient. **Don't let fear, doubt, suspicion or anger influence your decisions. Distraction is what keeps us from finishing what we start, from succeeding, or from even attempting new achievements in the first place.** Plan your work and work your plan.
19. **Take Risks.** Let's clarify this to say Calculated Risks. Decisions that you've thought about and have seen the victorious end result in your mind, then take that risk.
20. **Down But Never Out.** No matter how hopeless your situation looks, **Never give up because other options are always available.** The people that come back just when things look the worst are the ones that never quit, but stayed calm, looked over their situation and re-evaluated their situation and came up with a better strategy and acted upon it.