How to Be a Rockstar Facilitator

As you are leading your students' learning at home, there are many opportunities for you to level up your facilitation skills, so you can guide your students to deeper learning instead of just giving them hints or answers. Here are some tips for stepping up your facilitation game!

FACILITATION STRATEGY	DO LESS OF	DO MORE OF
Listen to social cues and be emotionally responsive to your child	 Tasks that are too easy Pushing your child to stick with a task that they might not be ready for, to the point of frustration or tears Explaining something the same way, over and over again Using rewards and punishments 	 Find that sweet spot of challenge. You know what they're capable of! Be flexible to changing plans—if today's not the day, maybe tomorrow or next week Take breaks Find new analogies or ways of explaining a concept Celebrate and embrace the struggle that is an inherent part of learning
Be mindful of what you're saying and the language you're using	 Using fixed mindset language: "You're so smart!" "I was never good at math." 	 Celebrate your child's good work and effort Reminders that we all have the capacity to learn Using growth mindset language: "You worked so hard!" Speak empathetically "I understand"
Ask good follow-up questions to extend learning, and dig deeper	 Letting things end once your child finishes a task, especially when they get things correct Only giving feedback when wrong and giving praise to correct answers Asking questions that result in one-word answers: "How was school today?" 	 Whether the answers are right or wrong, ask your child to explain their thinking: - "How did you get this answer?" Give specific feedback of what worked or not, and why to prompt continued effort Ask how two concepts are related (doesn't have to be math) Ask questions that make students think: - "What was a challenge you overcame today? How?" - "What inspired you today?"
Be creative and collaborative with it - find and create extension activities together	Focusing on assigned work as just a task to be completed. There are ways you can bring new life and extend learning to it!	 Make it a game Make it active or physical Make it social (safely with distance, of course) Mash up ideas or mediums. Make connections in the world, across ideas and concepts



