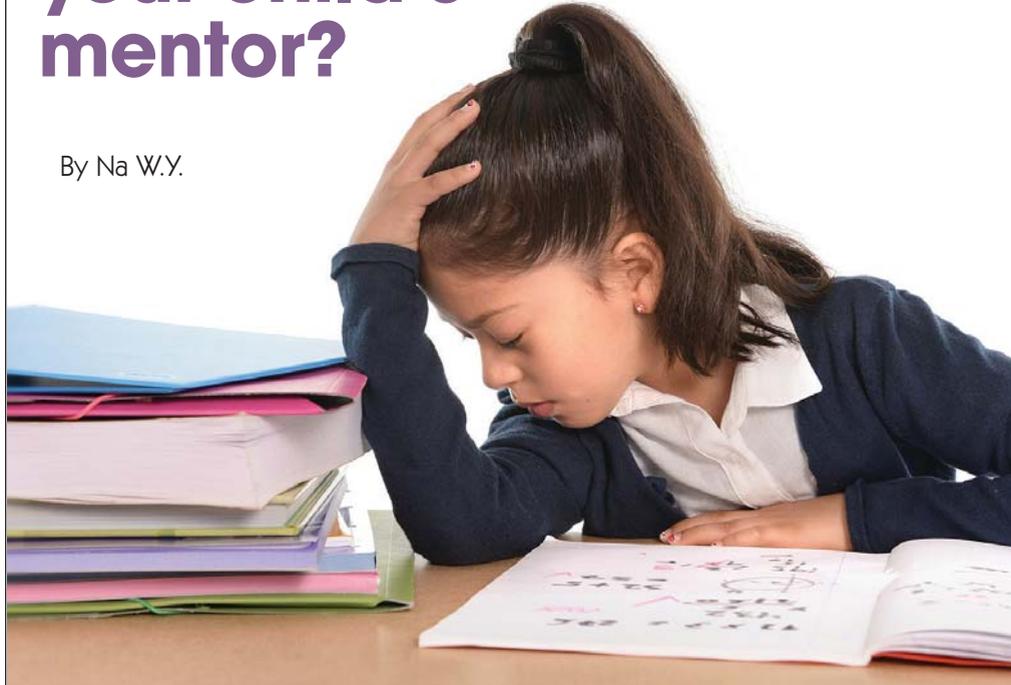


Who is your child's mentor?

By Na W.Y.



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Every child needs a champion! In the early stages of a child's development, their parents are usually their first champion. However, as they grow and their exposure to the world increases, children will find new champions outside of the home. A "champion" is someone who takes a personal interest in your child's well-being: a positive role model, trusted advisor, a source of inspiration and a friend—a mentor!

Often, mentors for children are teachers, sports coaches, youth leaders and friends. As parents, we constantly strive to provide the best for our children. We are confronted with many decisions that will affect their lives: what school they should attend; what preparations are needed to get into that school; what extracurricular activities they join. We try not to make big mistakes that may cost our child later with regard to these choices. Yet, how often do we look for or consider their mentors—the people who may have a profound impact on our children's life?

When keeping a look-out for your child's mentors, keep an eye on the activities, sports and academic pursuits they belong

to. Mentorship often comes about through an activity your child will need some assistance with, or something they're really interested in.

For example, when parents approach tutors for support, the academic result is understandably their primary goal. However, academic performance is a natural outcome of something equally important.

Beyond helping the student with a subject, a strong tutor will engage and encourage students in such a way that changes the "I can't" to "I can". They help develop their interest in learning and build good work ethic and study habits. Tutors that

formalize mentorship goals have proven to produce far-reaching and sustainable results, and create life-long, independent learners. When you are looking for a tutor, keep on the look-out for the champion who will help your child succeed in more than just their schoolwork! ★

A strong tutor will engage and encourage students in such a way that changes the "I can't" to "I can".

Na is the Director of Education with TutorBright Vancouver, providing hand-selected tutor-mentors to students in the Vancouver area. TutorBright's tutor-mentors are passionate about education. They're also subject experts and have great communication skills and experience in 1-to-1 teaching methods and mentorship. www.tutorbright.com.