



Home > Business  
> Seeds of Genius: Unearthing Your Child’s Hidden Passions

Business

## Seeds of Genius: Unearthing Your Child’s Hidden Passions

by Peter Tilles | August 8, 2023 | 0 comments | 258 views

**SHARE** 0

As a college admissions consultant, I hear a common response from students when I ask them what they love to do or if they have any idea what they want to study in college, “*I don’t know.*” How much-untapped potential are we leaving on the table when we can’t help our children to discern their passions that can lead to a purposeful life?



...have the innate self-awareness as children to be able to connect the dots to how the things they enjoy doing might provide important clues that could help shape a purposeful future.

So what can we do as parents to spot our children's passions? Here are six strategies you can use:

## 1. **Observation of Play Patterns and Preferences:**

Paying close attention to how your child engages in play can be the first clue to their inclinations. Often, children naturally gravitate towards activities that resonate with their interests. For instance, a child who spends hours building intricate structures with blocks might have a penchant for architecture or engineering. When our younger daughter was around ten years old, she built a pulley system from her bedroom down to the kitchen so my wife and I could send snacks up to her room. Did we know then that she would become an engineer? Perhaps not, but she was full of motivation, and the thought certainly crossed our minds. After that, we continued to nurture her emerging passion. Observing what children play and their intensity, creativity, and devotion during these activities is crucial for recognizing potential passions.

## 2. **Engagement and Immersion:**

When my daughter was around twelve, one day, she spent nearly three hours engrossed in

much time had passed. Initially, I thought she was just shopping, but to my surprise, she was analyzing arbitrage opportunities for buying on Etsy and reselling elsewhere. At the time, this early knack for spotting deals hinted at a possible interest in the import/export field. However, today, as an industrial engineer, she has gravitated into roles where she is responsible for sourcing component materials at the best quality and price.

### **3. Eliciting Feedback from Teachers and Peers:**

Sometimes, our children's passions can be more apparent in social environments such as in school. Teachers can often provide observations that parents haven't noticed. For instance, a teacher might note a child's outstanding aptitude in math or a keen interest in science experiments. Garnering feedback from others is an invaluable way to gather clues that could provide a view of a child's potential passion.

### **4. Encourage Exploration and Monitor Receptivity:**

When children are younger, encourage them to explore many different activities. Monitoring their responses to them can be an effective way of spotting their passion. It is also important to ensure that we are not pressuring our children into liking something but rather allowing the freedom to explore and discover their passion naturally.



be underestimated. Connecting our children with role models and mentors who have expertise in their areas of interest can be instrumental in shaping their passions. Mentors can provide guidance, share their experiences, and offer valuable advice that nurtures a child's growth and encourages them to pursue their passions confidently.

## **6. Fostering a Supportive Environment**

Furthermore, as parents, it is crucial to create a supportive environment that values effort, resilience, and learning from setbacks. Passion-driven pursuits can sometimes be challenging, requiring dedication and perseverance. By fostering a growth mindset and emphasizing the importance of embracing failures as learning opportunities, we empower our children to pursue their passions with determination and resilience.

In the quest to unearth a child's hidden passions, it is important to recognize that each journey is unique and unfolds at its own pace. As parents, we must embrace patience and allow our children the space to explore and evolve. Sometimes, their true passions may reveal themselves later in life as they navigate different experiences and discover new interests.

While observation and engagement are essential tools, we must also remember that passions can emerge from unexpected sources. Encouraging

...experiences. Through these diverse experiences, they can develop a well-rounded perspective and gain insights into their strengths and passions.

### **Conclusion: Nurturing a Lifelong Journey of Fulfillment**

The journey of unearthing a child’s hidden passions is a dynamic and evolving process. It requires a combination of attentive observation, open-mindedness, exposure to diverse experiences, and access to supportive networks. By embracing the uniqueness of each child’s path, fostering mentorship, and creating a nurturing environment, we can help our children embark on a lifelong journey of personal fulfillment driven by their passions. Together, let us embark on this transformative adventure and empower the next generation to unleash their full potential.

SHARE 0

< PREVIOUS POST

NEXT POST >

**How Can the Community Help and Treat People Suffering from Mental Illnesses and Addictions?**

**Artist, Dancer, Mentor, and Philanthropist – This is Brittany O’Connor**



### **Peter Tilles**

About Peter Tilles: Peter Tilles is the Co-Founder & Managing Partner of Princeton College Consulting. With over ten years of experience as



South America in achieving their admission goals. He achieves that through a focus on authentic character development, which enables students to develop the skills and necessary experiences that lead to significant personal growth. Peter frequently speaks domestically and abroad about the intensely competitive college admissions and athletic recruiting processes. Peter brings 30 years of experience as a successful entrepreneur and senior executive to bear on the college admissions process. He has served in numerous senior strategic, operational, and leadership roles with Citigroup, UBS, and PDI, a pharmaceutical commercialization company where Peter served as President of their market research and consulting division. He has also served and continues to serve on various for-profit and nonprofit boards. Contact Information: Official website: <https://www.princetoncollegeconsulting.net/peter> LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/peter-tilles-563567/> New Jersey Address: 300 Witherspoon St Princeton, NJ 08542 Contact #: (609) 454-8520 New York Address: 590 Madison Ave New York, NY 10022 Contact #: (646) 530-8420

### RELATED POSTS

**Risk-Free Equity Investments With The Jonathan Jay Method**

**Meet the Visionary Founder and CEO of FinAccurate – Jayanthi Ganapathy**

**Explore Dr. Cameron Chesnut's Non-invasive Treatments and Cosmetic Biohack to Go Back a Few Years and Dust off Aging Signs**

