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Can our TV's be our teachers?



Jonah Backstrom News Writer

Tv is a good thing. It teaches many kids valuable life lessons that they may not see in real life.

These situations that are in children's television shows can prepare kids for meeting someone with a disability, like Elmo's friend Julia who has autism.
Or they can teach kids about LGBTQ+ relationships like Mr. Ratburn and Patrick in Arthur.

These shows with situations that may not be an everyday occurrence for some kids can open children's eyes to a different normal.

The new normal that kids are introduced to can

be anything from introducing them to a new career path like in Doc McStuffins or having a career in the biology and animal field like in Wild Kratts.

TV can teach kids so many different things that can be key parts in development.

Over the Last summer I was a nanny. I looked after kids who were 4 and 7 years old. the show like "wax museum," and to get him to eat his dinner we played "Fancy restaurant"

On top of that he could not go to sleep without his Bingo and Bluey stuffed animals.

Along with these fun games, beloved stuffed animals, new words, and creative ways to eat dinner he learned a lot about helping friends, to always clean up your my friends from so many different shows I watched when I was younger.

One of my favorite cartoons from when I was a kid taught me so much about how to be brave in tough situations. That show is Courage the Cowardly Dog. Even though sometimes I got scared with Courage, we both somehow figured out how to get past the fear

My absolute favorite show as a kid (and admittedly still now) is of course SpongeBob SquarePants. SpongeBob is a very persistent sponge, and he was not afraid to try things more than once like passing his boating license test or being the best cook out there. SpongeBob taught me how to be a good friend and how to put up with some people who may think differently than I do like Squidward was to SpongeBob.

While thinking about the shows I used to watch when I was a kid and the shows these children have access to now. I realize that the messages they tried to portray in these older shows were for more entertainment than teaching kids' lessons.

From an older perspective I think it is amazing that they found a way for kids' shows to be entertaining and informative at the same time. Which I feel was something that I didn't have as a child.

But either way all these shows were integral parts of my childhood and they taught me so many lessons that I will forever remember and relate my life back to.

ILLUSTRATION BY: JONAH BACKSTROM

"SpongeBob taught me how to be a good friend"

The four-yearold loved bluey. Actually, that may be an understatement. Bluey was a every facet of this kid's life.

He used words he used from the show like "dunny" which I learned was another word for the toilet. He loved to play games he learned from

mess, and how to treat everyone the way you want to be treated.

While watching this show many times over with the kids, it reminded me of many of the shows when I was a child.

I learned a lot about the golden rule and being kind to

