

How to Uplift Your Child's Love for their Kinks & Coils

As our young kids continue to be told that their hair is a distraction, inappropriate, or even “[against school policy](#),” we can only imagine what this narrative is doing to their self-esteem about their natural hair. Children of color at predominantly white schools are especially at risk, being surrounded by white kids that might like to tug and pull at their curls with invasive curiosity. Kids don't always do well when it comes to accepting the unfamiliar, so their peers might be telling them their hair is “weird” or “crazy,” and not in a good way. Even at diverse schools, kids can fall into the trap of separating “good” hair from “nappy” hair, as though its proximity to whiteness determines its beauty. With these attacks coming from all sides, we have to take special care to make sure our kids can still wear their natural crowns proudly.

Make sure there are plenty of TV shows and movies around them that reflect their hair. Normalizing our hair as much as possible is really important in preventing them from feeling “othered.” Find kid-friendly entertainment that features an array of natural black hair so that they know their hair is welcome and accepted. Seeing kids and adults proudly wearing their kinks and coils in different settings on screen can also really make up for what they may not have access to in person.

As well as curating what they are watching, purposefully shape what they hear as well. Kids are extremely observant and don't always let on that they're paying such close attention. They are continuously listening and silently internalizing the things people say around them. A small thing that can make a big impact is to speak positively and lovingly about your own kinks and coils and make sure your child hears you. Love your hair out loud and speak positively of black hair in general. And, of course, continue to compliment and praise your child's natural hair as much as possible.

Keep up with styling your child's curls as much as possible. Let them know that their hair is worth putting in the effort for a fresh hairstyle so that they'll be proud to wear it every day. Style their hair with our [Nourishing & Defining Slime Styler](#) to get creative with their kinks, coils, and curls. With their edges laid and their natural hair poppin', your kid can go to school feeling confident and proud of the awesome crown they've grown on their head.

Lastly, if you want to get really proactive about protecting your child, try to check their school's actual policies regarding hair. These viral incidents publicly shame black children and the school administrators can always fall back on the fact that it's “school policy.” See if you can get an online copy of the school's guidelines and search for anything that has to do with hair. If you see something that could potentially be used to degrade a child of color, figure out if there's anything you can do to get it changed.

It's tough out here for children of color to maintain their self-esteem in a society that tries to tell them they aren't good enough. And it's only gotten worse with the internet and social media invading their lives at younger and younger ages. Encourage your child to practice self-love for not only their hair, but everything about the melanated skin they're in.