

Working Beyond Grade Level

The ultimate goal of a Kumon student should be; to reach and study beyond grade-level.

Some students could reach this goal sooner, if not for lack of consistency. Meaning, if your child is not doing his work “consistently” then you can expect a sluggish progress and getting to and above grade level can be difficult.

Why should you want your child to go beyond-grade level? Picture this; let’s say you want to get on the freeway. Your car begins to move slowly at the bottom of the ramp. It moves slowly initially until it gains speed, and then when you reach the top you are at speed and merge on the freeway easily. Once on the freeway, you keep your foot on the accelerator to stay ahead of slow traffic. If you don’t, you will come to a stop.

Similarly with Kumon, in the beginning, your child is at the bottom of the ramp. Slowly and steadily he gains momentum until he reaches grade-level. Once he starts cruising, you are not going to want to stop or slow down. You will see a new person in your child.

What should you expect when your child reaches working above-grade level? Key life-changing factors; high self-esteem, motivation, eagerness, “can do” attitude, time-management skills, self-learning state of mind, to name a few. These are the traits of successful students and professionals.

What does it take to make your child a success? Persistence on your part; you are the gate-keeper. You allow things to happen. In that sense you must provide for your child an environment at home that allows him to learn; no TV, radio, or other distractions while doing his work. Keep the time of doing homework consistent and the time of play separate. Teach your child these simple rules, apply them “consistently”, and you will have a successful child.

Whether your child is learning math, martial-arts, or motocross, keep practice consistent. This will help your child think ahead and manage his time responsibly.

If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions about this topic, please contact me at mr.jose@kumonofgilbert.com.