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## NEWSLETTER

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### **How Does Family Labor Promote the Ability Development of Junior High School Students?**

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**S**trengthening labor education is an indispensable part of the comprehensive development of students. However, the family, as an important field of student labor education, is failed to realize the effect. Recently, a study published in *Journal of Educational Science of Hunan Normal University*, on the basis of the baseline data of the China Education Panel Survey, analyzing the junior high school student's family labor situation in China by constructing a multi-layer linear model, and then explored the relationship between family labor and the development of junior high school student's ability.

The results show that:

- There is a phenomenon of “absence” in family labor education in our country. 12.1% of junior high school students do not participate in family labor, and there are significant differences in the family labor time among different characteristics junior high school students.
- There are significant differences in family labor among students from different family backgrounds and urban and rural areas. Students from disadvantaged family backgrounds and rural students have a greater proportion of family labor with a longer time than other students.
- Family labor within one hour can help improve the academic performance and cognitive ability of junior high school students, but more than one hour will lead to decreases in grades and cognitive ability.
- Family labor has a significant positive impact on students' non-cognitive ability, such as openness, extraversion, agreeableness, and a sense of responsibility. It can also reduce neurotic negative emotions.

Therefore, the researchers suggest:

- Parents should attach importance to labor education and integrate labor education into family education. By setting up a good example for children by labor practice, parents can subtly nourish

the labor character of students, and create a good atmosphere to optimize the labor habits of students.

- Follow the pattern of students' physical and mental development to carry out appropriate family labor. For students with different characteristics, parents should allocate an appropriate amount of family work that conforms to the law of their physical and mental development, rather than allocate some repetitive and heavy physical labor. The key to family labor is to improve the quality of labor education.
- All parties should actively build an internal and external interweaving multiple coordination family labor education system with family as the main body, school as the guide, and community as the support.

*Source: Journal of Educational Science of Hunan Normal University, 2021; 20(02):56-63+89.*