

Parents as Partners

Did You Know?

Singing songs from your childhood with your child builds a strong bond and creates joyful memories. Your child will be delighted to know that you know the same songs he is learning at school.

Try It Out

- Sing songs in the car.
- Sing songs while giving your child a bath.
- Make a list of songs both you and your child know ("Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star," "Itsy Bitsy Spider," "If You're Happy and You Know It," "The Wheels on the Bus").
- Make up a song about something that you experience (losing your keys or spilling a glass of milk).
- Sing silly songs. Humor adds to the joy.
- Create a book of songs you sing with your child.



Looking Ahead

Please bring your recycled toilet paper tubes and paper towel tubes to our classroom. We are collecting them for fun activities we will be doing in a few weeks.

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Did You Know?

Children need specific information about your expectations. If you say you want your child to use "helpful hands," offer some examples. If your child is angry, tell him exactly what he needs to do.

Try It Out

Give your child examples of what is correct and what is not when you give specific information for him to follow.



- When you ask your child to use "helpful hands," say, *We use helpful hands when we help someone pick up something they have dropped or when we hold the door open for someone who is behind us. We use helpful hands when we pass someone something they can't reach or when we give someone a pat on the back. We do not use helpful hands when we push or shove or hit.*
- Instead of saying, "use your words" when your child is upset, tell him exactly what he should say: *Tell Frankie, you don't like it when he pushes you.* This is the kind of specific instruction your child needs and offers a good model. Recognize that children do not make generalizations until they have had many life experiences. So don't get frustrated when you have to provide the correct words again and again.

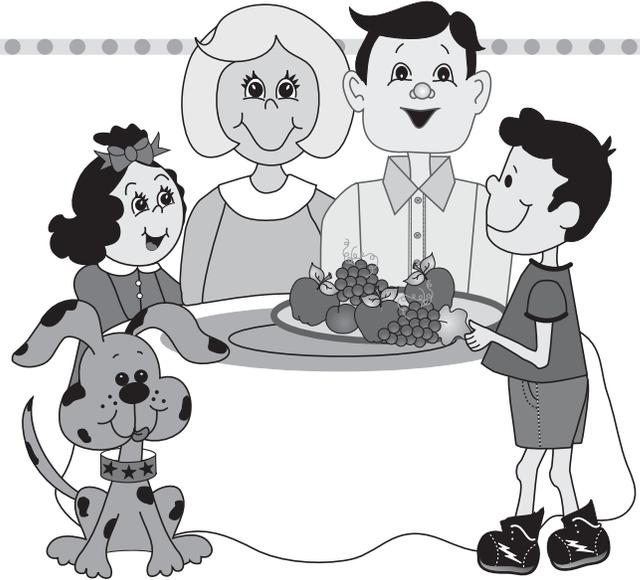
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Did You Know?

Sitting down to dinner with your child provides an opportunity to model pro-social behaviors you want your child to learn. You can encourage your child to use good manners. Dinner conversation teaches children how to take turns and listen. Plan a family "sit-down" dinner several times a week.

Try It Out

1. Allow your child to help serve himself and to pass food when appropriate.
2. Tell your child the best thing about your day and ask about the best part of his day.
3. Point out how to use a napkin and how to ask for additional helpings.
4. Have every member of the family tell one new thing they learned that day.
5. Involve your child in cleaning up after dinner. He can bring dishes to the sink.



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Did You Know?

Tickle games become interesting to little ones at around 3 months of age. These games are one form of social play. Tickle games are an important part of bonding with your child and are an important part of your child's development. Children usually remain interested in tickle games until around 3 years of age and some even continue liking these games longer. Playing regular games that involve making your child laugh teaches your little one predictable routines, builds anticipation, and helps her understand the concept of waiting for a reward.

Try It Out

Use a craft feather to play this tickle game we learned this week.

Round the Lake

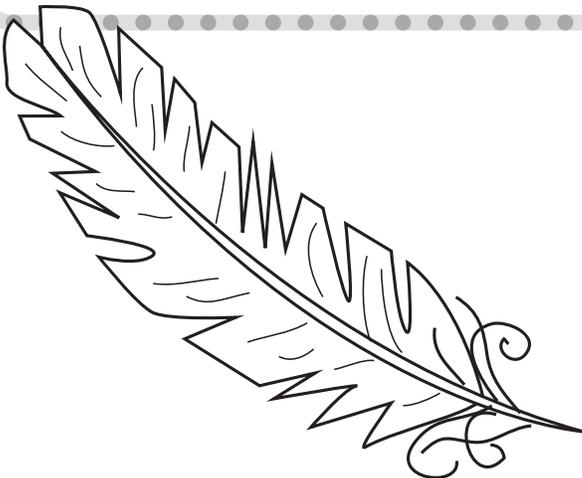
Round the lake, round the lake
Goes the little drake.
Up the hill, up the hill
Into his little "nestie."

(circle feather around child's palm)

(move feather up child's arm)

(use feather to tickle child's neck)

Safety Warning: Use a soft feather with a stiff center vein. Keep feathers away from children's eyes. Use a craft feather and not a natural feather you may find.



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