

Responsibility

Adults and Their Responsibilities

List some of the many responsibilities grown-ups have. It may be wise to only list (or draw) practical jobs that are done at home or in the classroom which they can understand and relate to (and not overwhelm the child with all that adults must do). Talk about ways your children can help with some of those jobs.

Responsible Chefs

Pretend to be working in a kitchen. Remember to be careful with a knife, turn off the oven/stove, wash dirty dishes, and take care of other responsibilities in the kitchen.

Making Promises

Have a puppet say various promises like, "I will help you put away your toys" or "I will sing a song for you" and have the puppet perform what he said he would. Talk about the importance of doing what you say you will do.

Creating a Responsibility Poster

Create a poster with four boxes for the children, putting a picture of a task they are responsible for in each box. This could include using kind words, cleaning up toys, helping cook, being gentle with a pet, etc. Write at the top "My Responsibilities."

The Responsible Leader Game

Find a blindfold and take turns leading each other around the classroom, yard or house. The leader needs to make sure the other person is safe by guiding them by the hand, telling them where any hazards or steps are, and helping them get around safely.

How We Can Be Responsible Neighbors

Role play talking politely with neighbors. Choose a way to help around the neighborhood such as picking up trash, baking an elderly neighbor some bread, or offering to help with gardening. We should help others when we see a need, without being asked and without expecting something in return.

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How We Can Be Responsible in Our Homes

Discuss household jobs and choose a new task the children can take on, such as brushing their own hair, putting on their shoes and making their own bed. As we grow, we all take on new exciting responsibilities!

The Multiple-Task Game

The children are given the opportunity to show responsibility by performing a set of tasks in the exact order that they are given. The parent or teacher counts down "1, 2, 3, go!" and the children must complete all three tasks in the right order before they may return for a hug, handshake or other reward.

Tasks may be:

1. Please turn off the light in the bathroom.
2. Put this tissue in the garbage.
3. Get a glass of water and give it to someone else.