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Fall 2007

Catch Your Child Being Good

Bring out the best in your child.

by Ann E. LaForge



Ahh...the power of positive thinking. Focusing on good behavior is the best way to promote model behavior in young children, according to a newly released study supported by the U.S. Department of Education in Washington, D.C.

Researchers found that parents of toddlers who exhibited frequent defiance, prolonged tantrums, and physical aggression were able to turn their kids around by using positive-reinforcement techniques. "The parents now describe their kids as caring and sensitive in their relationships," says Phillip S. Strain, Ph.D., the study's principal investigator and a professor of educational psychology at the University of Colorado in Denver.

Strategies from the study that all parents can use:

State your expectations in advance (so your child can focus on what to do, instead of on what not to do). Tell your child, "When we get to the store, I'll hold your hand and we'll walk down the aisles nicely," rather than, "Remember, you can't run around in the store."

Catch your child being good (so he won't seek your attention by being bad). For example: "I'm so proud of you; you remembered to hold my hand" keeps the focus on good behavior.

Clearly say when a reward will be earned (so you avoid last-minute bribing or threatening, neither of which teaches kids how to behave). Tell your child, "When you're finished putting your toys away, you can watch your favorite video."

Let's Be Thankful

Tune: Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star

Let's be thankful for this day,
For our friends and our play.
Let's be thankful;
let's be glad
For our food and the things we
have.

Let's give thanks for you and me
And our home and family.



*"Give thanks to the LORD, for he
is good; his love endures
forever."*

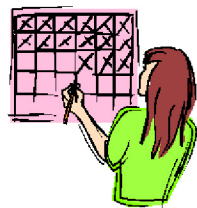
Psalm 107:1 (NIV)

Looking Ahead ~ Holiday Closings

Thanksgiving:

Thursday & Friday

November 22 & 23, 2007



Christmas: Monday & Tuesday, December
24 & 25, 2007

New Year's Day: Tuesday,
January 1, 2008



New Year's Eve?
Will you need care?