Ouch! Why Does My Toddler Bite?

It may seem as if you're living with Dracula's daughter, but nope — it's just a day with your toddler, who has now entered a biting phase. In most cases, your tiny terror will stop biting once she learns to speak more, and grows more teeth. This phase will pass within a few months, so don't fret.

Reason for biting: Teething — biting down makes her gums feel better.

What to do: Offer her a soft teething toy or wet washcloth.

Reason for biting: Frustration — lacking language skills, she bites when she can't say what she wants.

What to do: Try to offer the right word. Tell her that biting is not okay, and give her something else to chew.

Reason for biting: Attention — unable to speak, she'll try to engage her peers by taking a chunk out of them.

What to do: Model the words for her ("You'd like to play with Sabrina"), and remind her that biting is wrong.

Reason for biting: Anger — toddlers are notorious for temper tantrums. Biting may occur during one of these fits.

What to do: Remove your little hothead from the situation; give the no-biting talk once she's cooled down.

By Anita Sethi, Ph.D., Babytalk, May 2005



Swimming in the Pool

Swimming, swimming in the swimming pool

When days are hot when days are cool

In the swimming pool

Back stroke, side stroke, and Fancy diving too

Oh, don't you wish that you could have nothing else to do

but . . . (continue on with the beginning)



But Jesus said, "Let the children come to me. Don't stop them! For the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to such as these."