

Children need the experience of doing chores. The following are ideas to help children be more responsible and realize the importance of people doing what they say they will do.

What you'll need

• Helping hands

What to do

1. Talk about what happens when people do the things they are responsible for (water the plants or feed pets, for example).

Think about what would happen if people did not do these things—if the bus driver stayed home, or the movie projectionist didn't show up for work. Together, think of more examples.

- 2. Decide together on jobs for each family member to do. Should people be able to do only things they like? Talk together about this.
- 3. Turn a household task into a game. Decide together how long it will take to do the job. Time yourselves against the clock.

Listening to the radio or a record while you do the job makes it more fun. This helps the work get done faster, too.



Children need to learn early how others are affected when chores are not done. Talk about why it is necessary to do things we don't want to do, and why we should not expect others to do our work.

This activity also gives children an early lesson in how to make good decisions.