

Developing Independence

One of the surest safeguards of the young is useful occupation. There is untold value in industry. Let the children be taught to do something useful. From infancy children should be trained to do those things which are appropriate for their age and ability. Parents should now encourage their children to become more independent. *Child Guidance* p122.

Ages 3 & 4:

- Hang up clothes
- Sweep
- Match socks
- Help prepare meals
- Set table with silverware
- Unload silverware from dishwasher
- Put dirty clothes in laundry hamper
- Clean up spills
- Help pick vegetables in garden

Ages 5 & 6:

- Help find items in grocery store
- Pick vegetables in garden
- Weed the garden
- Make sandwiches
- Rake leaves
- Dust
- Vacuum
- Help with younger siblings

Ages 7 – 9:

- Learn to use oven, range & microwave
- Learn to use tools and do minor repairs
- Help prepare grocery list
- Scrub bathroom sink, tub & toilet
- Pack school lunches
- Make simple meals
- Sew on buttons
- Sort clothes, run washer & dryer

Ages 10 – 12:

- Plan and prepare meals
- Iron clothes
- Mend or sew clothes
- Wash & wax car
- Mow yard
- Run weed eater
- Do simple home maintenance
- Organize and run home duties

What chores are right for your child? Your child may be ready for some tasks earlier or later than suggested, and you will think of many more jobs beyond those listed here. Proper training and supervision are essential.

For more information or to be added to our mailing/email list, please contact us.

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