



tip of the week

Help! Our preschoolers want to help. We want them to help. But what can they do successfully?



- At mealtime, even a very young child can put the napkins on the table. Let them work up to carrying silverware.
- Teach older preschoolers how to correctly place table settings. (Placement is one of those left-right issues, so don't expect most preschoolers to place them on the correct side.)
- Young children can also take their own plates to the sink. And they love to help you hand wash the dishes!
- Expect your children to help pick up toys. Begin picking up toys yourself and you will find they are usually glad to join in. However, young children are

not likely to pick up toys alone. Make it a shared activity; make it enjoyable. "Ashley, can you pick up every red toy? Thank you!" "Judd, can you put all the round things in this box? All the animals on this shelf?"

- Young children can feed pets pre-measured amounts of dry food.
- Young children can put their own clothes into the hamper and put trash into the trash can. They may also enjoy sorting dried laundry by color, owner, etc.

