

Chores and Responsibilities

A Discussion Guide for Parents and Kids



5 Discussion Points and Tips for Talking

Most kids would rather be outside playing or spending time with their friends than doing chores or taking on extra responsibilities, but talking to your kids about responsibilities can help them understand the importance of teamwork and contribution to the family.

Discussion Points

1. Talk about why doing chores is important. Chores keep a home clean and enjoyable, teach responsibility, and help in making decisions. You can take pride in doing a job well, and everyone in a family is happier when everyone does their share.
2. Tell your child that privileges come with responsibilities. It may seem like adults can do whatever they want, but they also have to go to work every day and take care of their families and their households.
3. Discuss which family member does which chore (or who works together). When each family member sees that everyone else chips in, they're more likely to help out.
4. Talk about how to make chores more enjoyable—and more fair—among family members.
5. Celebrate completed chores with meaningful celebrations.

Take It Further

ParentFurther discussion guides are created to help you talk with your kids about tough topics. Visit www.ParentFurther.com for more discussion guides and additional resources.

Tips for Talking

- **Play music and dance while you do chores together. Set a timer and have competitions to see who can clean the most in 10 minutes. Do what you can to make chores seem less boring.**
- **Teens often can't wait to be adults. Talk to your teenager about how responsibilities go hand-in-hand with freedoms.**
- **Some kids believe they have time only for friends and will make excuses for everything else. Set guidelines, such as how many meals you want to eat together as a family, and expectations for chores.**

Taking on new responsibilities is an important part of growing up—but it can also be a difficult one. By helping your children understand that responsibilities are a necessary part of life, you'll help shape their attitude into a positive one.