



The Little Me Growth Chart

Toilet Learning

Toilet learning is different from toilet training. While toilet training is something that an adult does to a child, toilet learning is when children play an active part in their own learning. Toilet learning begins with knowing the signs that tell you children are ready to use the toilet. Learning will happen when you teach in a way that does not punish and does not use treats or rewards. Children who are ready need no rewards to make them want to learn. Most children will be happy and proud when they can go to the potty by themselves, and that is reward enough.

The key to toilet learning is *teaching--not training--* children. It is important to teach them to listen to their bodies, to talk to others clearly about their needs, to get their own clothes off (sometimes with a little help), and to feel good about learning something new. The goal is for the child to feel proud of what she has done.

Little Me has its own Toilet Learning Policy. If you would like a copy of it, please let us know.

We would like to say a big **CONGRATULATIONS** to **Elizabeth, Grayson** and **Dania**. All 3 have worked very hard potty learning.

Little Me & Learning

As your toddlers are getting older, we would like to start implementing some preschool curriculum into our day. Individual attention will be given to each child so that they may work at their own pace and attention span. Listed below are a few themes that will be carried out through the month of January. We will do our best to fulfill all aspects of each month's goals.

- Child's Name Recognition on paper
- Letter A and B
- Numbers 1 -5
- Scissor cutting

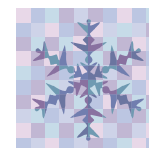
I also have an online subscription to enchantedslearning.com. If anyone would like to print out materials to work with your child at home just let me know and I can give you my ID and password.



www.littlemechildcare.com

Volume 1, Issue 7

January 2011



Dates to Remember

- January 17th - Martin Luther King Day

"Children want to make you start your life over." ~Muhammad Ali

There are no January Birthdays



Talk...Talk...Talk

Over the last few years a growing body of research has made it clear that one of the most important things parents can do to prepare their young children for success in school is to share lots of good language with them. Simply talking and reading to your child...a lot...will help lay the foundation they need to thrive in school. Research shows that the more language a child has been exposed to in their first five years of life the more successful they will be in school. This gives parents great power to influence their child's future success. Adding language to your child's day is not hard to do. According to Betty

Bardige, author of *At A Loss For Words*, "Reading and talking about books, telling simple stories, singing together, reciting nursery rhymes, playing word games, sharing pretend play with props or puppets, asking and encouraging questions, elaborating children's ideas and sentences, and other forms of effective language "teaching" are such fun for children and adults alike that they are easy to incorporate into everyday routines." It all boils down to the fact that giving children words gives them power. Having a strong vocabulary, and knowing how to use it, empowers children as learners. This power will remain with them throughout their lives.

They will build on the language they acquire before they start school for the rest of their lives. They will use the words you give them to understand the world, ask questions, form ideas, and add even more words to their lexicon. Start young, you should be reading and talking to infants and toddlers too. It is never too early to start sharing language. You do not have to spend a lot of money to enrich your child's language, but it will take some time and some effort on your part. You need to make sharing language a habit.

<http://www.explorationsearlylearning.com>