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## Teaching Children to Apologize

As adults, we are rarely satisfied with children's apologies. The rapid-fire repetition or the insincere tone of voice make it very clear that they are not sorry at all. Insisting that they say it again (but properly this time!) almost never produces the desired effect. Here are some tips for teaching your child how to apologize in a way that will not only help them with social skills, but teach them the empathy that they will need to develop and maintain positive relationships throughout their lives.

Have them start with **"I'm sorry for..."**. Make sure that they are specific about what behavior of theirs caused the other person harm. No more "I'm sorry for being mean." Have them acknowledge what it was that they did that was mean.

They can continue with **"This is wrong because..."**. This will be the hard part at first, but it is crucial. Children need to understand how their actions and words can affect others and having your feelings understood is an important component of forgiveness as well.



The next part of an apology should be **"In the future, I will..."**. Making a commitment to change one's behavior is integral to a true apology. Try to encourage these to be positive statements about what your child will do, not negative statements about what they won't do. Instead of "I won't push," try "I will only use my gentle hands."

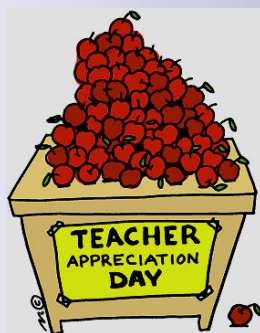
Have them finish with **"Will you forgive me?"** Don't require forgiveness. Help children understand that relationships must be repaired and sometimes an apology is not enough to do that. Encourage them to find ways to make the injured party feel better and to earn their forgiveness.

And of course, remember to model this behavior yourself. Don't be afraid to apologize to your child when you are wrong and show them the proper way to do so.

For more on this check out: <http://www.cuppacocoa.com/a-better-way-to-say-sorry/>

### TAKE NOTE

- Fundraising will be this month. One change: boxes have 60 pieces of chocolate instead of 50. A family with 1 child- necessary contribution of sales 2 boxes (\$120) . 2 children - necessary contribution 3 boxes (\$180) 3 or more children - necessary contribution 4 boxes (\$240). Please see Mr. Robert to make your payment. Chocolate must be paid in advance.



### UPCOMING DATES

- National Teacher's Day is Tuesday, May 6th.
- CLOSED Monday, May 26th for Memorial Day

## *Ms. Jackie's Teddy Bears Class 2-year-olds*



*Easter Egg Art*

Last month was exciting as we entered spring and enjoyed a lot of fun spring activities such as our Easter egg hunt. Now that we

are entering May, the fun will only continue as we will carry on with spring projects and learn about nature. This is great as the weather is getting warmer out. We will really take ad-

vantage of the outdoors and learn about our environment. We want to remind parents to check your child's cubby and change/add any clothing they may need for this season.

## *Mr. Temok's Butterflies Class 3-year-olds*

Hello, readers. I want to introduce myself. My name is Mr. Temok and I will be teaching in the Butterfly classroom.

In the month of April we reviewed the alphabet. The students went to the blackboard and pointed at the alphabet letters as we sang them. We have been focusing on the letters A, B and C, and we learned a new Spanish word: BIENVENIDO (which means

"WELCOME"). The weather was particularly nice this month, we enjoyed the playground and we were able to take short walks outdoors. Outdoors, the students were following the road rules we discussed in class such as stop before crossing the street; obey the traffic lights; stay within the crossing lines.

In the month of May we are going to continue working on

the alphabet and numbers. In addition, we will work in the science area; the students will discover the world of plants by: planting seeds; watching them grow; and caring for them. We are going to reinforce our color recognition by making the rainbows. Finally, May is going to be a fantastic month to incorporate more outdoor activities if Mother Nature allows us.



*Letter Writing Practice*

## *Ms. Megan's Guppies Class 3 and 4-year-olds*



*Bees in a jar*

The Guppies class had an awesome month! We had great themes to celebrate such as bugs, spring time and earth week. We also learned about letters m and n. We practiced our writing as well as our math skills like odds and evens and addition and subtraction. And our class was finally able to go outside! We are loving this weather and hope that we get more

great days in May like we had in the month of April.

For the month of May, our class has some amazing lessons coming up. We will be learning different themes such as different environments like rainforest and desert and plant life. We will also continue our lesson on letters with lessons on o and p.

Parents: I apologize for my absence from the classroom. Our 5 year olds needed some help with their graduation ceremony and I have volunteered myself to be a coordinator for their show as I have been an assistant to the 5 year old teacher for the past 2 years. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to see me and I will be happy to assist you.

## *Ms. Selina's Bumble Bees Class 3 and 4-year-olds*

Last month the children in the Bumble Bee classroom worked on Spring and "chicka chicka Boom Boom." We have learned so much about letters this month the children have continued to impress me with learning the letters of their name and spelling out their names for me every morning. I couldn't be happier with their progress.

With our spring lessons the children discussed what comes along with spring, such as animals, weather, how you should dress, and what activities become available to you. We have been able to play outdoors this month and the children couldn't be happier. As a class we also had the chance to celebrate earth day which was a blast. Yay! Next

month will be Dr. Seuss month. The children will focus learning new topics by using Dr. Seuss books as their topics. This is going to be a great month, I love Dr. Seuss and so do the bumble bees.



*Our class earth using only our fingertips.*

## *Ms. Taga's Bears Class 4 and 5-year-olds*



*SO COLORFUL!*

To recap the month of April, we discussed vegetables, weather, yellow and zoo animals, and we celebrated our Spring celebration. We also began our spring themed art projects. For the month

of May, we will review our alphabet from A-Z and review our numbers from 1-20. We will also begin our opposites, starting with more/less. We will continue with our spring themed art projects on Friday's and

make our Mother's Day presents in stages throughout the first half of the month. In our media table, we will continue to add soil and bugs for sensory play and learn about science. It should be a fun month!

## *Koalas Class 5-year-olds*

What an eventful month of April in the Koalas class. We started off and ended the month working on our writing skills using ABC books and flip books to practice writing our letters. The 5 year olds had lots of fun practicing for their Toddler Town Too graduation with Ms. Megan our graduation coordinator. Graduation has

been set for Thursday June 19, 2014 @ 6:30 pm @ Lagos Banquets. We also celebrated Earth day in the month of April. The children were taught the the important 3 R's, Reduce, Reuse and Recycle to help our environment. We implemented our recycling by placing a recycling bin in our classroom. We will continue practicing

throughout the month of May as well as working on sight words and our math skills. The class and I hope that SPRING is on its way so that we can take walks around the neighborhood.



*We've been practicing letters numbers and writing skills.*