

Nearly everyone gets into trouble at school sometimes, but some children seem to get into trouble at school a lot more than anyone else. If you are someone who seems to be getting into trouble a lot of the time with your teachers, this topic is for you.

Often children who get into trouble will say things like:

"It's not my fault."

"I always get the blame," or even,

"The teacher always picks on me."

There are two kinds of attention you can get from the teacher.

The good kind where you get help, praise and encouragement.

The bad kind where you get into trouble, are given consequences (like warnings, time out, office time out, etc.) and the teacher always seems to be watching you, ready to catch you out.

What you need to do is aim for the good kind.

How do you do that? Well let's start with:

What you need to know about teachers

They like eye contact from you when they are talking.

They like you to ask and answer questions - of course you have to follow the classroom rules, like waiting until they've finished talking, putting up your hand, waiting until you're asked to speak.

They like you to get organized quickly when they've given you a task.

They like you to do your best work.

They are people too!

They like you to ask for help if you need it.

They like you to finish your work and hand it in on time.

They like you to show good manners.

They are good friends and good listeners when you need them to be.

They don't live in the classroom cupboard! They have homes and families too. If you think your teacher is 'picking' on you, maybe it's

Problems with the teacher

◆ *The teacher always picks on me*



because she or he has learned that you like the 'bad' kind of attention? It's going to take your teacher a while to 'unlearn' that and then learn that you really like the 'good' kind of attention.

What you can do to teach your teacher

Look at the teacher and listen.

Don't answer if friends talk to you (tell them later that you're trying to teach the teacher).

Get organized with the right book, pencils

etc. at the start of the lesson.

Follow classroom rules about asking/ answering questions.

Get on with the task as soon as you know what it is.

Ask the teacher if you don't understand what to do (you don't want to do some 'unlearning,' do you?)

Check your work to see if you can improve

it. Quietly get on with something else if your teacher is busy helping someone else.

Hand your work in on time, or if you had a problem, ask if you can have extra time to do the work. (Ask as soon as you have the problem, not at the time when you are supposed to be handing in your finished work!)

Show your teacher how responsible you can be, eg. picking up things which have fallen down, sticking up displays which are falling down, reminding him/her about times when your class should be somewhere else and carrying out any jobs you have been given which help in class organization.

Show how well you can cooperate with others in group activities.

What if your teacher isn't learning very well?

Sometimes learning something new takes a lot of practice, even if you are a teacher!

Unlearning what you know about someone can also take quite a while.

If you are trying really hard and your teacher doesn't seem to be noticing, then there are a few things you might do.

Ask the teacher about your work.

Ask how to improve on something you have done.

Ask if you can help around the classroom.

Write a note explaining how you are trying to improve and ask for feedback on how you are going.

Get mum to write a note if you are too shy.

Keep trying to improve.

(Source: cyh.com)



My elephant thinks I'm wonderful

By Kenn Nesbitt

My elephant thinks I'm wonderful.

My elephant thinks I'm cool.

My elephant hangs around with me and follows me into school.

My elephant likes the way I look.

He thinks that I'm fun and smart.

He thinks that I'm kind and generous and have a terrific heart.

My elephant thinks I'm brave and bold.

He's proud of my strength and guts.

But mostly he likes the way I smell.

My elephant thinks I'm nuts.

(Source: poetry4kids.com)

Is TV watching linked to aggression in kids?

NEW YORK (Reuters Health)

— The more TV a 3-year-old watches, the more likely he or she is to behave aggressively, a new study shows.

Just having the TV on when the child wasn't watching it was also linked to aggressive behavior, although the relationship wasn't as strong, Dr. Jennifer A. Manganello of the University at Albany, State University of New York, Rensselaer, and her colleagues found.

She and her colleagues looked at 3,128 women from 20 U.S. cities who had a child between 1998 and 2000. While there was some diversity of education among the study participants, one-third hadn't graduated from high school.

Two-thirds of the mothers said their three-year-old watched more than two hours of TV a day, and the average viewing time for kids was around three hours. On average, the TV was on for about five additional hours on a typical day.

After accounting for factors known to be associated with aggressive behavior, such as living in a violent neighborhood or having a mother who suffers from depression, TV watching and household TV time were both still significantly associated with aggressive behavior, such as hitting others, having angry moods, being disobedient, and screaming a lot.

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends no TV at all for children two and younger, and two hours a day or less for older kids, Manganello and her team note in their report.

There are a number of ways that excessive TV viewing could contribute to a child's degree of aggressive behavior, the researchers add. Children may see violence on TV, and time spent watching TV may mean less time for behaviors that help kids develop positively, such as reading or playing.

"We really don't know what's going on for certain," Manganello said. Future research needs to look both at TV content and at what's going on in a child's home when the TV is on, she added.

The findings show, Manganello said, that parents have to consider the "overall TV environment" of the home, as well as how much TV their child is watching.



Food jokes

Why is a tomato round and red? Because if it was long and green it would be a cucumber!

How do you make an apple puff? Chase it round the kitchen!

What did one tomato say to the other? You go on ahead and I'll ketchup!

Why did the tomato blush? Because it saw the salad dressing!

What's worse than finding a slug in your apple? Finding half a slug in your apple!

What did baby corn say to mommy corn? Where's popcorn?

What color is a hiccup? Purple!

How do you divide 20 potatoes among 6 people? Boil them and mash them!

Dinosaur jokes

What do you do when a dinosaur sneezes? Get out of the way!



What do you call a dinosaur wearing tight shoes? My-foot-is-saurus!

What do you get when two dinosaurs collide? Tyrannosaurus wrecks!

Why are there old dinosaur bones in the museum? Because they can't afford new ones!

Receptionist: Doctor, there's an invisible dinosaur in the waiting room. Doctor: Tell her I can't see her!

Why did the dinosaur cross the road? Because the chicken hadn't evolved yet!

What makes more noise that a dinosaur? Two dinosaurs!

What does a Triceratops sit on? Its Tricera-bottom!

What do you call a blind dinosaur? I-don't-think-he-saw-us!

What was T Rex's favorite number? Eight (ate)!

What do you call a tyrannosaurus that talks and talks and talks? A dinobore!

What do you call a Stegosaurus with carrots in its ears? Anything you want, it can't hear you!

What do you call a dinosaur that never gives up? Try-Try-ceratops!

When can three giant dinosaurs hide under a small umbrella and not get wet? When it's not raining!

What do you call a plated dinosaur when he is asleep? Stegosnorus!

What did the dinosaur say after the car crash? I'msosaurus!

What's the best way to talk to a dinosaur? Long distance!

Which type of dinosaur could jump higher than a house? Any kind! A house can't jump!

Why don't dinosaurs ever forget? Because no one ever tells them anything!

What's worse than a giraffe with a sore throat? A diplodocus with a sore throat!

What does a giant Tyrannosaurus eat? Anything she wants!

What should you do if you find a dinosaur in your bed? Find somewhere else to sleep!

Kids become 'depressed' without play time

AUSTRALIA (AP) — A loss of playtime in early childhood is creating an epidemic of Australian children suffering depression and mental illness, an adolescent psychologist says.

About one in four young people battle a mental illness before they reach the age of 18.

Adolescent psychologist Dr Michael Carr-Gregg says it's important children learn resilience in their early years and this can be done effectively through play.

"Children teach themselves to crawl, stand and walk through repetitious practice play," Dr Carr-Gregg said.

"At the preschool level, children engage in dramatic play and learn who is a leader, who is a follower, who is outgoing, who is shy."



"They also learn to negotiate their own conflicts."

Play not only promotes social skills but children who receive an enriched, play-oriented parenting and early childhood program have higher IQs at age five than other children deprived of such experience, Dr Carr-Gregg said.

An unintended consequence of technological development is that children have moved indoors.

"Children who might once have enjoyed a pick-up game of football now watch the game on TV, sitting on their couch," he said.

An increase in the number of working parents has contributed to children spending their free time in adult-oriented activities instead of childhood play, he said.

Photo placemat

By: Amanda Formaro

This fun keepsake pulls double duty as a useful placemat for meals and a great way to display your favorite family photos. These make great gifts for Grandma and other relatives as well.

What you'll need:

- 1 sheet white craft foam
- Clear contact paper
- Silk or real leaves
- 5" x 7" photograph
- A few tiny silk flowers
- Hot glue gun
- White craft glue
- Paper cutter or scissors

How to make it:

1. Glue photo to the center of the white foam. Use a sponge applicator or your finger to spread the glue evenly

on the back of the photo so that there are no bumps or lumps.

2. Use a hot glue gun to decorate the "frame" around the photo with leaves. If you're using real leaves, make sure they are bug free and not too dried out or they may crumble.

3. Add a few tiny silk flowers around the frame. You can also use some whimsical fall stickers if you like.

4. Cover both sides of the foam placemat with contact paper. Make sure you follow manufacturer's instructions.

5. Trim the edges, leaving about 1/4" of the contact paper over the edges of the foam.

(Source: kaboose.com)

PUZZLE

KidSpot™

4-3=

ACROSS: 2. TACK, 5. BALL, 6. CAR, 7. ONE, 8. SWAN
DOWN: 1. BALLOON, 3. KITE, 4. EAR, 5. BATS

KidSpot™ SOLVE THE REBUS BY WRITING IN THE NAMES OF THE PICTURE CLUES AND ADDING OR SUBTRACTING THE LETTERS.

WHY COULDN'T HUMPTY DUMPTY LEND MONEY?

W + [Illustration of a mask] - mk

[Illustration of a bird] + id

[Illustration of a key] - y

BECAUSE HE

[] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

ANSWER: WAS BROKE