

common topics we all face

How do I get my kids to go to bed and stay there?

#### **Bedtime Routines**

"Have some sort of routine such as 'quiet time, drink, and story,' which signals the end of the day and stick to it." - J.K.

#### Make it Fun

"Make bedtime enjoyable and fun so they want to go to bed." - P.T.

# Don't Give In

"Be firm and resist procrastination and cries for 'one more story." - F.Y. My children fight all the time. How should I respond in order for them to stop?

# Don't Give the Resolution

"Help children resolve their own partnership problem themselves." - H.P.

#### Calming Effect

"Get the kids to calm down before you help them work through the problem. Send them to different rooms for a while." - H.G.



How do I start encouraging my kids to be independent?

#### Start Small

"Ask kids to set the meal table as a first toward getting them to cook a meal." - D.L.

#### Stop Helping

"Avoid doing things for them that they can do on their own so that they will begin to learn to do them." - C.B.

# Don't Give In

"Resist tantrums and other negative ways that they may use to make you change your mind." - T.L.

How do I know if my child's poor behavior is just a phase?

# **Have Discussions**

"Talk to your child lovingly and ask open-ended questions about how they're feeling. Kids will usually tell you what's wrong if you slow down and take the time to listen." - K.W.

# Look for Benchmarks

"Some children's behavior is developmental - fear of the dark, separation anxiety, and tantrumthrowing are common at different stages." - O.P.

# **Trust your Gut**

"Listen to your instinct and if in doubt, get your child checked out by a suitable professional." - K.E.

Have helpful tips to share? Have questions of your own? Email editor@katymagazine.com or visit Katy Magazine's Facebook page and watch for parent talk questions posted regularly!



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