

How we can help Potty Train your children

While most parents would like to see their children are toilet trained as early as possible, we should remember that toilet habits play a major role in character development of a child.

This is also important to know that the usual age for potty training is within a well known stage in character development, called anal stage.

The anal stage is the second stage in Sigmund Freud's theory of psychosexual development, lasting from age 18 months to three years.

Pressuring children to change their toilet going habits (speed, control, privacy, etc.) may be damaging to their normal development.

This is why many childcare centers have different rates for "potty trained" or "non-potty trained" children. [Needless to say, they ask families to toilet train their children at home, not at the daycare.]

We will work in conjunction with parents during potty training. If you have a method that has been working for you, please let me know and I will adopt it for your child. We will work with you – but cannot replace you, or do it for you, as your children will trust you, and are comfortable with you, more than anyone else.

Should you discontinue potty training at home, please let me know. If a child shows no interest in potty training, I may choose to discontinue and try again at a later stage. If you choose to potty train with underwear, please be sure to supply plastic pants to keep "the mess" contained and please supply a lot of extra underwear and clothes.

Soiled clothing will be sent home to be washed. Children must be dry (including bowel movements) in a pull up/diaper or plastic pants for 2 weeks before they will be allowed to wear underwear without plastic pants.

Exemptions:

We will not be able to help you with potty training if:

- The child is not able to communicate his/her needs with the adults. Minimal language skills are usually required, but we also can work with children who know how to signal us.
- Children who have rashes, infections and burns around their private parts.
- Children who have phobias that can affect their position or placement on the toilet, or around non-family adults/children.

Suitable Candidates:

A ready to be potty trained child is a child who can do the following:

- 1) Be able to TELL the adult they have to go potty BEFORE they have to go. They must be able to say the words "I have to go potty" BEFORE they have to go. (if not, a sign that is communicable with the caregivers)
- 2) Be able to pull down their underwear and pants and get them back up without assistance.
- 3) Be able to wipe themselves after using the toilet. (we will monitor, and help if necessary)
- 4) Be able to get off the potty by themselves.
- 5) Be able to wash and dry hands. (we will monitor, and help if necessary)
- 6) Be able to postpone going if they must wait for someone who is in the bathroom or if we are outside and away from the house.

Please let us know if you have any experience with this matter that can help us, and other families to help their children towards independence, one step at a time.

Thank you!

Barney Daycare Team