

Teach children good manners

Learning good manners is more than knowing when to say “please” and “thank you!” Good manners mean you must perceive what’s going on with the other people around you. This is often called “sensitivity to social cues.”

Just having these social perceptions means that a child – or an adult – will be able to handle most social situations. And just like in every other “talent,” some children seem to have manners “inborn” while others just don’t seem to get it. So how does a parent improve a child’s sensitivity to social cues?

Encourage your child to watch other children. Help your child notice what they’re doing and saying. Point out how much fun other children are having.

Talk over the day’s events with your child. If a problem arises with a peer, ask for a description – not an explanation – and what could have made the problem better.

With your help, children can improve their manners and their “likeability” to other kids.



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