

Ladybug News



How To Handle Your Toddler Saying “No”

Here’s a rhetorical question for you: Why do almost all toddlers learn how to say “no” before they can pronounce their own names? Toddlers can hardly say a word like “boat” in more than a whisper, yet they can yell “no” at the top of their lungs in the grocery store you frequent. While this might sound like the setup for a punchline, it’s true – every toddler learns “no” as they develop a personality and independence (usually around two years old). Sure, your toddler having free will is a good thing. But try telling that to a haggard mom who’s short on sleep when her toddler is yelling in the milk aisle.

The truth is, for the first couple of years, your baby will listen to you and be relatively compliant. But once they start having a voice of their own, they’ll begin to disagree. And when a toddler starts saying “no,” it’s hard for them to go back to being agreeable. If the “no’s” start flying more often in your household, you may be tempted to yell back or plead for them to stop. Unfortunately, choosing that route won’t be very successful. Instead, follow these tips so you can be prepared when it’s time to deal with the “terrible 2’s.”

Create A Distraction

When someone creates a distraction in a movie, it’s usually to divert attention away from bad guys in an action movie. But in real-world situations, doing so can be great for toddlers who can’t quit saying “no.” As most parents will tell you, distractions are often key to ensuring a few moments of calm. They’re also great for averting “no.” Like kitties, kids love shiny objects (both literally and figuratively). Use any tools in your arsenal to distract your child: a favorite book, a new toy, or even a sibling. Enticing your baby with something jingly or shiny might be just enough distraction to break a never-ending stream of “no’s.”

Provide Two Choices

Toddlers will often fight back against your wishes because they view instructions as a binary choice: option A or option B. But when the option parents choose is the only one given, the opposite becomes the default choice. By giving your child two choices, you can circumvent this false duality and offer two options you really want. For instance, instead of telling your toddler, it’s time to leave the playroom for dinner, ask if they’d prefer to go now or if they’d like to play for another five minutes and then leave. Presenting your child with two choices (both of which you support) makes them feel like they’ve got some deciding power in the scenario. Taking this route helps minimize freak-outs and the inevitable “no.”

Use A Five-Minute Warning

This tip piggybacks off our previous entry and is meant for you to be clear about what you expect and when. Don’t tell your toddler that they must get a bath now. Tell them that in five minutes, they need to read a short book with you, put away their toys, get changed, and then head to the bathtub. Yes, that’s a long chain of instructions that may be hard to remember, but the goal here is to help them know what’s coming next. Be sure to include a reward of sorts – in this scenario, reading a book together works. Giving your child something to look forward to can prevent unnecessary “no’s” and help keep them happy about what’s in store.

Provide Positive Alternatives

On the off-chance that you are unaware, kids absorb everything around them like a sponge. That includes your own usage of the word “no.” Telling them “no” when they want something you don’t want them to have will teach them that using “no” is OK. Instead of saying “no” if your toddler starts pulling on your dog’s hair, tell them that “We pet our doggie and give them hugs. We don’t pull their hair.” Using positive phrasing and alternatives helps toddlers understand what they’re doing isn’t correct. Perhaps more importantly, it lets them see an alternative (but equally pleasing) way to get what they want without them defaulting “no” and shutting down.

Ladybug News



Playroom

Hello Spring!

I hope everyone had a wonderful February, I know the Playroom sure did! To start I would like to welcome a few new people to the Playroom. Odin from the Nursery moved up to the Playroom last month and he has been loving being with the big "bugs". We also welcomed a new staff member to the infant department, Miss Christine who doubles as an assistant teacher and my mom also joined us in February. While she will mainly be in the Nursery she still may come to hang out with us for a little bit. We are so glad you are here Odin and Miss Christine :)

Month Activities

This month we are jumping right into learning. We will be focusing on our colors but will mainly focus on the color green and the animals we will begin to see as the weather warms up! We will have many colorful art projects and lots of sensory activities to make learning about colors and animals so much fun! This month is going to be so much fun I can not wait to share it with you all.

Signs for the Month



Help



Home



Sit



Songs / Rhymes

*"Two Green Apples"
(Sung to: This Old Man)*

Way up high in a tree
Two green apples smiled at me
So, I shook that tree as
har-r-d as I could
Down came the apples.
Ummm, they were good!

Reminders

- We will begin to go outside this month. Please bring LABELED snow pants, boots, a winter jacket, and mittens. We want to keep our "bugs" as warm as possible while having outside fun.
- Please make sure you are checking your child's cubby every night to take home things that need to be taken home.
- It's going to be a busy month here in the Playroom, if you have any questions please feel free to email me at shakopee.playroom@ladybugcc.com

"For the Love of children" ~ Ms. Bryanna

Ladybug News

Toddler A

February Fun!

March is going to be a busy, busy month! We will be learning about three different themes!

In the first week of March, we will be working on the theme **"Spoons are for banging!"**. This week we will be working on using spoons and using them in different ways. We will get to work on using them during our mealtimes, we will get to use them to make art, and even use them during our music time to make different rhythms and beats!

Our second week of March will be **"I Do It!"**. We will get to work on doing tasks all by ourselves! We will start learning how to work on doing things on our own. Toddlers will learn how to put their own socks and shoes on and work towards getting our sweatshirts on all by themselves.

Lastly, our final two weeks will be **"Going Places"**. During this time, we will be learning all about different ways we can get around! Airplanes, trains, boats, cars and even buses! Some art projects include tissue paper school buses, handprint boats and sponge painting other vehicles!

Goals and Concepts

Math:

- To be to simple shapes such as circles, squares, and triangles.

Language Arts:

- To repeat simple words such as "No. Mine. Please and Thank You."
- Repeat songs and words in group time from familiar stories.

Personal & Social Growth:

- To express their feelings in appropriate ways.
- To assert their independence. Learn to clean up after playing.



Songs / Rhymes

My Spoon
I eat and eat
With my spoon, just so.
Eating right
Will help me grow!

Wheel Song (Sung to: "Old MacDonald Had A Farm.")
Little Laura
Had a car.
E-I-E-I-O.
And on her car
She had some wheels.
E-I-E-I-O.
With a wheel,
Wheel here.
And a wheel,
Wheel there.
Here a wheel,
There is a wheel.
Everywhere
A wheel, wheel.
Little Laura
Had a car.
E-I-E-I-O.

Reminders

- We still aim to go outside at least twice a day. Please continue to bring in weather-appropriate gear for your child.
- Please label everything coming into Ladybug, we would hate to misplace items!
- Please continue to clear out your child's classroom cubby every night so you never miss their adorable artwork or important information such as diaper bin checks!

*For The Love of Children ~
Miss Gladis*

Ladybug News



Toddler B

Month Recap!

The kids had fun using their fingers to paint, trace and draw. They practiced putting their sock, shoes, and mittens on by themselves. We looked at pictures of different homes around the world. We talked about the different things we find at our house and which room they belong in.

This Month's Themes & Activities

March will introduce three different themes. **Spoons are for banging, I do it! And Going places.**

The kids will have fun exploring what spoons can be used for! Painting, scooping playdough, and....banging!

They will learn how to do things on their own. We will continue practicing putting on snow gear, socks, and shoes by ourselves.

We will talk about the different places we go around town, pretend to drive around our block cities, and color pictures of different vehicles.

Goals and Concepts

Math:

- Identify the colors: Red, Yellow, Orange, Green, Black, Brown, White, and Pink.
- Be able to sort by Color
- Identify the shape: Rectangle

Language Arts:

- Be able to sit and listen to a story

Personal & Social Growth:

- Use the appropriate manners:
 - Excuse me and apologizes.
 - Use appropriate table manners.

Music:

- Engage in singing games

Other/Physical:

- Be provided with ample opportunity for use of large muscle skills.

Classroom Reminders

- Please continue to bring in snow gear
- Make sure to check your little bug's cubby every night for artwork, diaper slips, or clothes

Songs / Rhymes

"This Is The Way We Set The Table (Sung to: The Mulberry Bush)"

This is the way we set the table,
Set the table, set the table
This is the way we set the table,
When it's time for a snack.

This is where we put the plates,
Put the plates, put the plates
This is where we put the plates,
When it's time for a snack.

"In an Airplane"

When I grow up
I'll say goodbye,
Then dart away
Into the sky.
I'll fly around
In my airplane,
But soon I will
Come down again.

*For The Love of Children -
Miss Maria*

Ladybug News



Proddlers

On to March!

Last month in Proddlers we learned all about how to take care of ourselves like putting our clothes on and brushing our teeth! We are working on our independence and identifying our feelings.

This upcoming month in March we will be learning all about the world and the people around us! Our first theme of the month is **We All Live Together**. Where we will learn all about our homes. The children will also get to make a family mural of their own families.

Our second theme of the month is **People in My World**. Where we will explore all the family members, and talk about friends and relatives that might not live with us as well. In this week the kids will be creating friendship chains and identifying what friends are!

Finally our third theme of the month is **People at Work**. This theme will take up two weeks of our month as we will explore all different types of jobs people have. Also how the different job help people. The Proddlers will get to make their own doctors kit, when we explore doctors and nurses. They will also get to make a vet headband when we learn about veterinarians and how they care for animals.

Goals and Concepts

Math:

- Practice counting 0-20
- Classify objects by color
- ABCA Patterns
- Learn the concept of full and empty

Language Arts:

- Use words to explain ideas and feelings
- The children will engage in imitating an adult reading
- The children will participate in group discussions

Music:

- Sing, Play, Move, and create music expressive of individual imaginations
- Engage in singing activities
- Will be given the opportunity to explore many different types of instruments

Personal & Social Growth:

- Continue to work on dressing themselves
- Caring for personal belongings
- Continue to work on putting toys away
- Identify themselves by their first and last names
- Identify parents by first and last names
- Identify different jobs and their responsibilities

Other:

- Continue to work on fine motor skills through everyday tasks
- Continue to enhance their large motor skills through everyday tasks

Reminders

- Show and Tell is every Friday!
- Please continue to bring snow gear as we try and get outside every day depending on the weather. Snow gear can stay all week and be taken home Friday to get cleaned over the weekend!

*For The Love of Children
~ Miss Kaitlyn*