



My kid can do WHAT!???

*a compilation of age appropriate skills/tasks
by moms like you*

Age	Tasks/skills they are able to perform
2	<p>Pick up toys before going onto another toy</p> <p>Can learn to clean off own high chair tray</p> <p>Should be able to obey with ONE-time instruction (Quick and appropriate consequences when this doesn't occur)</p> <p>Whining not permitted (<i>*IDEA PAGE, Whining Place</i>)</p>
3	<p>Speak to adults when they see them</p> <p>Answer questions (<i>unassisted</i>) when asked by an adult while looking at them in the eyes</p> <p>Wait patiently when mom and dad are speaking with others (<i>ask your child to squeeze your hand when they approach, signaling that they need you</i>)</p> <p>Learn to cover mouth with arm when coughing</p> <p>Able to be corrected in church, restaurants, etc. with sign language (<i>*IDEA PAGE, Simple Sign Language</i>)</p> <p>Helps sort laundry (<i>Helpful for working on colors</i>)</p> <p>Unload dry clothes from dryer into basket</p> <p>Help get snacks together for pre-school</p> <p>Help set table</p> <p>Help get drinks for meals</p> <p>Take plate/utensils/glass from table to sink</p> <p>Can empty silverware from dishwasher</p> <p>Can empty trash cans</p> <p>Begin learning how to order their own food in fast food restaurant</p>

Age	Tasks/skills they are able to perform
4	<p>Can "write" thank you notes (<i>by drawing pictures and signing names</i>)</p> <p>Learn how to fill own drink cup (<i>do this on open dishwasher door to aid with spills</i>)</p> <p>Set table</p> <p>Start folding laundry (<i>simple stuff like wash clothes</i>)</p> <p>Put away own laundry</p> <p>Dust with feather duster</p> <p>Cleaning windows</p> <p>Sweep porch, walkway, eventually becoming proficient enough to come inside and sweep</p> <p>Start helping with yard work by pulling weeds, raking, carrying piles</p> <p>Feed dog daily</p> <p>Empty litter box</p> <p>Order own food in fast food restaurants</p>
5	<p>Make beds</p> <p>Set clothes out for school</p> <p>Gather laundry and take to laundry room</p> <p>Fold towels</p> <p>Set/clean off table</p> <p>Washing unbreakable dishes by hand</p> <p>Help empty dishwasher</p> <p>Clean off counters with cleaner/wipes as daily job</p> <p>Wash bathroom mirrors</p> <p>Feed/water pets</p> <p>Bring in the mail from the mailbox</p> <p>Dust</p> <p>Poured salt in hand before putting on food</p> <p>Blow own nose (<i>must tell mom if yellow or green, explain meaning of this!</i>)</p> <p>Look at adults in the eye and address with respect</p> <p>Follow proper rules of non-interruption of adult conversation</p> <p>Able to apologize specifically and accept consequences of actions</p> <p>Limit television viewing</p> <p>Receive allowance and reflect basic skills of handling money</p> <p>Tithe</p>

AGE	Tasks/skills they are able to perform
6	<p>Put fitted sheets on bed</p> <p>Teach how comforter should hang (<i>even on sides</i>)</p> <p>Make own bed daily</p> <p>Strip bed sheets off of bed, take to laundry room</p> <p>Can learn how to fold clothes, match socks</p> <p>Put away folded clothes</p> <p>Wash bathrooms (<i>Scrubbing Bubbles work best when training</i>)</p> <p>Washing bathroom floor with rag/bucket</p> <p>Keep play area clean (<i>*IDEA PAGE, Buy Back Box</i>)</p> <p>Pull weeds</p> <p>Load and empty dishwasher properly</p> <p>Empties small trashcans</p> <p>Pick up dog poop</p> <p>Swim with proficiency</p> <p>Turn in projects that they completed rather than "parent done"</p> <p>Limit television viewing</p> <p>Set the table properly</p> <p>Sweep front porch</p> <p>Teach how to use a microwave (<i>no metal objects, no sealed containers, what type of plastic to use/not use, etc.</i>) Clean up after each use!</p> <p>Be responsible for daily personal hygiene (<i>brushing teeth, bathing, hang towels</i>)</p> <p>Learn to prop pillow under head when coughing</p> <p>Hunting with skilled "hunting dad"</p> <p>Fishing with dad</p>

Age	Tasks/skills they are able to perform
7	Dust Run vacuum cleaner in house Vacuum cars Help mow lawn (obviously with constant adult supervision) Sweep and mop kitchen floor Hold doors open for women/adults Make responsible phone calls (<i>i.e., weekly to grandparents</i>) Use proper phone etiquette Complete quiet times consistently Assist in meal preparations Make own lunch for school Pack school lunches Act with appropriate modesty in and out of the home (<i>i.e., when sleeping over at friends' homes</i>) Sleeping over at friends' home Writing thank you notes before using gifts (<i>teach them to address envelope and where to put stamp!</i>) They can pay for "extras" (<i>like school Book Fairs, souvenirs, etc.</i>) with allowance (<i>ask, "do you really want it?"</i>) Limit television Use video game playing as rewards, not as babysitter
8	Clean own room Make own lunch for school Plan, shop and prepare simple meal Limit television Use video game playing as rewards
9	Set alarm and get up on their own Teach them how to iron a shirt, skirt, pants the "right" way Take and retrieve trash can from the road Learn how to pay household bills Learned how to (<i>safely</i>) shoot gun Limit television Use video game playing as rewards

<p>10</p>	<p>Sort and Wash Laundry Fold clothes and put away properly Mow grass Use weedeater Walk large dog Use stove responsibly Complete all homework independently (<i>barring need of special help</i>)</p>
<p>11</p> <p>12</p>	<p>Re-teach ALL of the above stuff before the first armpit hair appears. Have "hormone talk" (<i>*IDEA PAGE, Hormones</i>)</p> <p>Prepare simple meals Cooking (<i>eggs, spaghetti, brownies, muffins, mac n cheese</i>) Able to do own laundry Able to iron dress shirts and pants Be totally responsible for care of room (<i>organizing, dusting, washing bathrooms, etc.</i>) Supervise siblings when parents are away Baby-sit outside of home (<i>if emotionally and socially ready</i>) Teach how to take and carryout specific instructions from an adult when babysitting Exhibit habit of physical activity (<i>involvement in sports, running, etc.</i>) Dress modestly and be able to explain purity in behavior Save for substantial financial wants (<i>for bigger items, can match their savings</i>) Show responsible behavior on computer. Have access to internet in FAMILY room only (<i>*IDEA PAGE, Home Computers</i>)</p>
<p>15</p>	<p>Get permit as soon as they turn 15 and let them drive as much as possible with least-stressed parent Know how to fill in job application the proper way Go out on instructional date with mom (<i>*IDEA PAGE, Dating Date</i>) Take care of family car(s) inside and out Wash dogs Basic grocery shopping</p>
<p>16</p>	<p>Manage and balance personal checking account Memorize Social Security number. Know who to and who NOT to give this to.</p>

IDEA PAGE

1. **Buy-back box:** *When kids leave video game controllers, toys, shoes, etc. laying around, pick them up for them and put them in a box and then make them "buy them back" (i.e., 25¢) on Friday of each week (on the last day of the month have a 10¢ sale!)*
2. **Pillow book:** *Purchase a plain journal and write a note to your child on the first page, such as:
"this is a pillow book. I will write notes ot you and put them under you pillow and then you can write me back and put it under my pillow. You can tell me if you are mad or sad or happy or just want to tell me something neat in your life."*
3. **Simple sign language:** *Teach them "NO", and "THANK YOU" which will help in a variety of circumstances...even when they get older.*
4. **Thank you notes:** *Don't let them use gifts (birthday, Christmas, etc.) until all thank you notes are written. They can draw pictures of their gift before they learn to write.*
5. **Whining place:** *YES, by all means let your child whine! Just give them a special place to do this. They can whine as long and as loud as they want but ONLY in that place (i.e., their bed, the dining room chair, etc.) Here's how it works: as soon as the whining begins say, "**OH, guess what? I have a special place for you to whine!**" Then, with a spring in your step, grasp their little hand and escort them to the predetermined place...always keep the same place. When you get there say, "**here it is, you can whine here as long and as loud as you like. And when you are finished, you can come back and join us! See you later!**" And then leave. When they return (on their own) welcome them back with fanfare, but be prepared to escort them back to that place when the whining begins again. You will likely escort 3-5 times the first day but decreasing on the following days. YOU are the key to its success!

*Note: some parents don't realize that their child is whining!! Are you one of them?**
6. **Eat meals together:** *This may be the only face time you have with the entire family each day. **Note:** don't allow phones (no texting or calls), Ipods, hand held games OR have the TV on during meal time.*

7. **Financial:** *teach about tithing, saving and how debt is frowned upon. A good experiential example is to "loan" money for a toy and have the child "slave" for a week to pay off the debt. When a child can add and subtract, they can learn how to keep a checkbook register by keeping a record of what's in their piggy bank and then deducting if they take money out to spend.*

8. **Hormone Talk:** *Before hormones kick in, talk to your 10-11 year old about their impending mood swings, body changes, interest in the opposite sex, honor and respect of opposite sex, personal purity. Even if they act nervous, they need to hear this from their parents.*

9. **Model WHO to run to:** *if you want MORE than a moral child, but a child who LOVES God as well, the best thing you can do for them is to MODEL your relationship with God. Let them see where you run during your weak times. Let them see you pray and reading your Bible. **Pray with them.***

10. **Obedience.** *Your child can be taught how to obey after only one time of giving them their task. (This is easier to train when they are younger but is very possible even later...nearly impossible after age 11.)*

11. **Dating "date"** *(Mom take out your son, Dads take out your daughter and provide this instruction before they attend their first school dance):*
 - *Guys: go to a door to pick up a date. Girls: expect him to come to door to be picked up*
 - *Meet parents (Make sure they know how shake hands and look parents in the eye. Ask her parents about her curfew.)*
 - *Open doors/expect doors to be open*
 - *Talk to a restaurant hostess (boys)*
 - *Seat a young lady/wait to be seated*
 - *Order food*
 - *Converse (i.e., things to talk about)*
 - *Eating (napkins, which utensils to use, etc.)*
 - *How to pay/tip (boys)*
 - *Comfort zones on where to go (never assume anything/speak up if uncomfortable)*
 - *Curfew*

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