

Making the Holiday Season Easier and More Enjoyable:

The holiday season can be hectic so it's no wonder even the calmest children can forget their manners. The good news is that with a few gentle reminders before the season starts you can guide your children through this special time.



When you are shopping, ask your kids to:

- Greet everyone with a friendly smile.
- Walk — not run — in the mall.
- Offer help with all those packages.

Even the youngest children can help out at a party by:

- Clearing their things out of the party area and then helping to decorate.
- Making place cards and helping you set the table on the day of the event.
- Greeting your guests at the door. (You can practice friendly hellos and handshakes with your little ones beforehand.)
- Taking coats to their designated spot.

Kids can make family visits extra special by:

- Greeting guests when they arrive.
- Offering to help guests settle in. Kids can carry small bags and show family members to their respective rooms.
- Sharing toys, games and computers with their visiting cousins.
- Spending time with grandparents or other adult relatives.

You can add to the joys of gift giving and gift receiving by:

- Planning some shopping trips so your kids can help pick out the gifts they are “giving.”
- Giving them the opportunity to actually hand gifts to others.
- Reviewing gift-receiving etiquette before the big day:
 1. Say, “Thank you.”
 2. Open the gift, and again say, “Thank you!”
 3. Even if they don’t like the gift, ask your kids to find at least one positive thing to say about it.

And everywhere with everyone: Warm words and smiles are the gifts that brighten the holiday season, without ever having to be wrapped!