

Potty Training at Scribbles & Giggles Family Childcare

10 signs your child is ready to Potty Train, from an article by Robert Needleman

1. She's able to walk well on her own and can pull down her own pants (elastic waistband is good for this) and diaper.
2. She shows that she's aware of what's going on in her diaper—either by saying something like “poo” or by looking un-comfortable when her diaper is full or pausing in her playing.
3. She's interested in what you do in the bathroom, coming in to watch from time to time. She might help to flush, or wave “bye, bye” to the departing poop.
4. She's not completely caught up in needing to say “no” to everything you suggest (the automatic “no” stage is usually between about 18 and 30 months)
5. She has tried to sit on the potty, with her pants and diaper on and doesn't seem to mind it. She feels “friendly” towards “her” potty.
6. She understands when you ask, in a mildly interested way, “Do you need to use the potty?”
7. She's fascinated by putting things into containers (blocks into the box, pouring sand or water in and out of a bucket.)
8. She feels proud when she can do something “all by myself.”
9. Her diaper is dry and clean often for a couple of hours at least.
10. She's interested in “big girl underpants.”

So, if you're sure your toddler is old enough, shows signs of being ready for potty learning, and you're up for a serious try, I will be more than happy to assist you with your toddler learning to use the potty.

Parents must begin the potty-training process with their toddler at home over a weekend or a long holiday. If successful at home, your child is old enough, shows signs of readiness, your child is not experiencing any other change, and I'm in agreement, I will follow up with the training at my home.

I take a low pressure approach to potty training. I give lots of praise for accomplishments (sometimes I reward with stickers, fruit snacks, or special toys to play with) and I'm “matter of fact” about accidents. I believe using underwear throughout the training process, pull-ups only at nap times and training during the warmer months is the best approach for potty training. I will also change your child into a pull up for the ride home if you'd prefer pull-ups. However, I also believe potty training will be a team effort between my home and yours and will follow your lead and your approach on how you'd like to potty train. Please communicate with me

daily about progress at home. Additionally, please realize this should be your child's accomplishment and not yours or mine. Children should not be compared to how other are doing.

The activity level at Scribbles & Giggles can distract your child from responding to an urge to use the potty more so than at your home. Due to health regulations, I cannot wash out soiled clothes. I will put them in a plastic bag for you to take home and wash. Please make sure to send lots of extra pairs of clean underwear and 3-4 additional sets of clothing each day.

Some other important points are:

- * The words we use at Scribbles & Giggles in reference to potty training are: Potty, Pee, Poop, Penis, Vagina (I don't believe in using slang terms for body part identification)
- * I have a potty seat for the big potty
- * The best way to learn is to teach. Have your child "teach" a doll or stuffed animal how to use the potty.
- * Set a timer for every 30-45 minutes to remind your child when the next time is to try going potty.
- * Encourage your child to drink lots of liquids during the training process.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns regarding Potty Training at Scribbles & Giggles Family Childcare.