

“Stewardship – Treasures”

In the modern world, there are more disposable things than ever before. This phenomenon causes many to not truly value the things they have since they are all replaceable. Children are particularly vulnerable to this philosophy of waste. It is the parent’s job to teach them the value of caring for their belongings.

Helpful Tips:

1. Limit the number of toys they have.

Parents love to shower their children with gifts. However, research shows that having too many belongings available to them causes children less enjoyment. It is as if they are saturated, overstimulated, and cannot appreciate what they have.

2. Purchase quality items.

When parents do buy toys for their children, it is best to focus on quality. Having a few well-made, long-lasting toys is a better experience for children than to have many easily broken things.

3. Rotate toys.

Parents cannot always control the gifts others give to their children. When the number of toys threatens a child’s space, rotating them is a solution.

Some can be packed and stored away for a later time. When you put out a new batch it is as if they have received new toys.



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Helpful Tips:

4. Teach them to work for what they want.

Children appreciate what they have and take better care of it when they have earned it themselves. If a child has his heart set on something, parents can help them do small jobs for them or others and teach him/her to save money to buy the item.

5. Do not hastily replace ruined belongings.

Inevitably, a child will destroy one of his belongings due to negligence or immaturity. Instead of rushing out to buy another to replace it, the parent can use this as a teaching opportunity. When things are not cared for properly, the child will no longer have those things.

6. Give them the opportunity to share with others.

When it is time to cull the amount of items a child has, parents are wise to encourage giving. They can find a child who has less that would appreciate the items. Remember to make the child a part of this process so they experience the joy of sharing.

Parents can cultivate a spirit of gratitude by teaching their children how to truly value and take care of what they have. This creates a world with less waste and promotes genuine care for other people as well.



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Reference

Heller, K. Six Tips to Teach Children to Care for their Belongings. Downloaded from: <https://kidsgoals.com/parenting-resources/six-tips-teaching-children-care-belongin>



North American Division
Family Ministries
Children's Ministries

9705 Patuxent Woods Drive
Columbia, MD 21046

Phone: 443-391-7200
www.nadfamily.org
www.childmin.com



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