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"Your phone keeps you close to the people far away but far away from the people close to you."

Author unknown

Parenting Potentials

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Tips for Making the Holidays Less Chaotic

- Resist the temptation to do everything
- Pick and choose which events to attend
- Delegate responsibilities
 - partners can help cook or shop
 - kids can help set the table, decorate or throw away wrapping paper
 - ask guests to bring a dish to contribute to the meal
- Less is more limit the number of gifts your child gets or opens at one time
- If your child has sound sensitivities, don't wrap the presents, put on a bow instead
- Discuss the days events with your child so they know what to expect
- Have an escape plan find a spot where your child can retreat if they need a break



Benefits of Movement Songs

These songs combine the joy of music with physical activity, creating a holistic learning experience.



Benefits

- encourages physical activity
- promotes cognitive skills
- strengthens language development
- stimulates emotional expression
- facilitates bonding
- spurs learning through repetition
- introduces concepts of rhythm, timing and rhyming

Favorite Movement Songs

- Head, shoulders, knees and toes
- Wheels on the bus
- Twinkle, twinkle
- Hokey pokey
- Itsy bitsy spider
- Shake your sillies out
- 5 little monkeys
- Open, shut them

How to Lose Gracefully



Losing with grace is a skill that all children need to develop in order to deal with life's inevitable highs and lows. Here are some strategies to promote good sportsmanship and encourage losing gracefully.

- 1. Shift the focus: center your conversations around always doing your best and having a good time.
- 2. Let them win-sometimes: this presents an opportunity for you to display the skills of losing graciously.
- 3. Be careful with firsts: take turns being first at home so they don't come to expect it in other situations.
- 4. Read books about good sportsmanship: sometimes kids need to see sore losers in action to understand what it's like when they act that way too.
- 5. If your child is really upset, walk them through their loss: determine if they need to practice more or if their loss was just bad luck.

Sally Sore Lose (link to book)

Number One Sam (Link)

Reindeer Sloppy Joes Sandwich



Ingredients:

- Ground turkey or beef
- Ketchup
- Brown sugar
- Worcestershire sauce
- Brown mustard
- Garlic powder
- Salt
- King's Hawaiian rolls
- Decorating cherry tomatoes, black olives, white sliced cheese, raisins, pretzel twists

Directions:

- In a large saucepan, cook turkey/beef over medium heat until no longer pink, drain
- Stir in the ketchup, brown sugar, Worcestershire sauce, brown mustard, garlic powder and salt
- Bring the mixture to a boil, reduce heat, cover and simmer for 15-20 minutes
- Place sloppy joes on rolls and have fun decorating!

Thanksgiving Scavenger Hunt

TREASURE HUNT	
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Lcicle.	A robin.
Frost.	Acorn.
Star.	Snow covered roof.
Christmas decoration.	Red mittens.
Holly.	Pom pom hat.
Pine cone.	Colourful lights.
Pine needles.	Cup of hot chocolate.
Berries on a branch.	Something red.
Footprints.	Something cold.
Animal tracks.	Something you only see at winter.
Feather.	The letter S.
Birds Nest.	A dog with a jacket on.
Firewood.	Someone running in the rain.
Chimney smoke.	A broken umbrella.
A frozen puddle.	A shovel.
A tree without leaves.	Winter boots.

Holiday Gift Guide

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