

Age Appropriate Chores (Adapted from www.focusonthefamily.com)

Ages 2-3

Personal chores

- Assist in making their beds
- Pick up playthings with your supervision

Family chores

- Take their dirty laundry to the laundry basket
- Fill a pet's water and food bowls
- Help a parent clean up spills and dirt
- Dust

Ages 4 and 5

Personal chores

- Get dressed with minimal parental help
- Make their bed with minimal parental help
- Bring their things from the car to the house

Family chores

- Set the table with supervision
- Clear the table with supervision
- Help a parent prepare food
- Help a parent carry in the lighter groceries
- Match socks in the laundry
- Answer the phone with parental assistance
- Be responsible for a pet's food and water bowl
- Hang up towels in the bathroom
- Clean floors with a dry mop

Ages 6 and 7

Personal chores

- Make their bed every day
- Brush teeth
- Comb hair
- Choose the day's outfit and get dressed
- Write thank you notes with supervision

Family chores

- Be responsible for a pet's food and water
- Vacuum individual rooms
- Wet mop individual rooms
- Fold laundry with supervision
- Put their laundry in their drawers and closets
- Put away dishes from the dishwasher
- Help prepare food with supervision
- Empty indoor trash cans
- Answer the phone with supervision

Ages 8 to 11

Personal chores

- Take care of personal hygiene
- Keep bedroom clean
- Be responsible for homework
- Be responsible for belongings
- Write thank you notes for gifts
- Wake up using an alarm clock

Family chores

- Wash dishes
- Wash the family car with supervision
- Prepare a few easy meals on their own
- Clean the bathroom with supervision
- Rake leaves
- Learn to use the washer and dryer
- Put all laundry away with supervision
- Take the trash can to the curb for pick up
- Test smoke alarms once a month
- Answer phone

Ages 12 and 13

Personal chores

- Take care of personal hygiene
- Write invitations and thank you notes
- Set their alarm clock
- Maintain personal items
- Change bed sheets
- Keep their rooms tidy

Family chores

- Change light bulbs
- Change the vacuum bag
- Dust, vacuum, clean bathrooms and do dishes
- Clean mirrors
- Mow the lawn with supervision
- Baby sit (in most states)
- Prepare an occasional family meal