

POTTY TRAINING

In the infant room, children are usually the age of two or under. Therefore, some of the children could show an interest in potty training. There is a small toilet and potty to help foster this interest.

It is in the next year that potty training usually begins. We do not force children if they are not ready. Potty training is usually done as a game with the other children, by telling stories on the subject or other... Every educator uses his/her imagination and creativity to encourage the child on this path. It is very important that the steps taken at daycare be continued at home. If this is not the case, there could be mixed signals given to the child, and this could make potty training a difficult time for him/her.

It is normal to have ups and downs while potty training. The «relapses» are a part of potty training. There is no use in reprimanding a child that has had an accident, and it is important not to dramatize the incident as well as to encourage the child to find ways to make it better the next time. All depending on the evolution of the child, the child's educator will ask the parent to bring into daycare things that will facilitate the work. For example: underpants that are very absorbent and a lot of clothes for changes in case of accidents!!

Here are a few tips to help the child achieve this step.

Indications that will inform us of the maturity of the child

- The child is clean and dry for more than two consecutive hours.
- The child knows when their diaper is wet.
- The child wants to remove their diaper and wear underwear.
- The child pulls their pants down themselves.
- The child tries to imitate an adult that goes to the bathroom.
- The child goes up and down stairs.
- The child knows parts of their body.
- The child can understand their needs.
- The child understands what they must go on the potty or the toilet.
- The child has the motivation to learn.

It is sometimes difficult for a child to have to go through these steps. Remember that it does not happen overnight. Let's all be conscious that with good communication between the educator and the parents we are giving the child better chances of success.

For the other groups, the educator is sometimes present in the bathroom and sometimes not, this depends on the child. If the child is at ease to be accompanied and if he/she is ready and able to wipe himself/herself after going to the bathroom.

It is very important that the educator and the parent have good verbal exchange and can communicate all the information on the ways of doing this at home because every family is different!!

In the last group, if the child is not capable of going alone, there will be work done with the educator and the parent to get the child used to going alone before he/she starts school.

Therefore, the word of order is PATIENCE! Every child has his/her own pace, and we can only make sure to give him/her necessary tools to elevate his/her self-confidence.