


WE'VE GOT MAIL!

Parents share their secrets to helping their children cope with transitions big and small.

 Parents can help their child enjoy and participate actively in preschool by showing interest in their learning. Our son initially dreaded playgroup and refused to let go whenever we dropped him off. We made it a daily habit to ask and encourage Theodore to share what he had learnt. It didn't take him long to tell us how much he enjoyed being with his friends and teachers and engaging in playgroup activities. This year, he was eager to start N1 and ran to his classroom on the first day. So much for back-to-school blues!

EUGENE WONG, father of a boy, aged 2½




Ease back-to-school anxiety by asking your child about his day



Friendships bloom from sharing home-baked cookies

 It was a trying time when our daughter Hazel started playgroup last year. She used to cry at the preschool entrance daily. I am grateful for her teachers and friends who helped her adapt to preschool life. We also baked cookies at home together for Hazel to share with her class, which gave her something to look forward to. Hazel now cherishes the friendships she has made in preschool. She is picking up a lot of vocabulary from her interactions with teachers and peers and is learning to be more independent.

ESTHER QUEK, mother of a girl, aged 3

 The ability to handle challenges requires character building, not merely academic excellence. As parents, we need to constantly remind our children that values such as empathy and respect will help them navigate changes and go far in life. There is no shortcut to this except by being a role model. Avoid comparing your child's academic performance with others, even between siblings, because every child is unique. Kids grow up fast, so treasure the times spent together and teach them positive values from young.

LOH TZU YANG, father of two, aged 7 and 6



Be a role model for your children



MONSTER-RIFIC!

We showed you how to make a tissue box monster in the Oct–Dec 2021 issue. Here are the cute beasts some of you made.



MIKAYLE LIN, 5



ARISSA AND AMBER LEE, 3 and 2



HE YUXUAN, 6

NURTURING EMPATHY AND COMPASSION

Parents, how do you teach your child to be aware of others' feelings, show consideration and be compassionate? Share with us your tips and strategies. Attach a photo with your anecdote and your submission may appear in the next issue of *Beanstalk!*

Submit your story online at go.gov.sg/beanstalk-mailbag or scan this QR code.



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