



3580 Mt. Acadia Blvd
San Diego, CA 92111
(858) 560-0985 fax (858) 560-1014

73 North Second Avenue
Chula Vista, CA 91910
(619) 425-9933 fax 619-425-3556

17025 Via Del Campo
San Diego, CA 92127
(858) 592-2335

MARCH 2018

Themes:	Dr. Seuss, St Patrick's Day, Spring, Easter
Letters:	Cc, Gg, Ss
Numbers:	13, 14, 15
Colors:	Green, Orange
Shapes:	Shamrock, Clover
Science:	Rainbows
Social Studies:	Ireland
Nursey Rhymes:	Rainbow, Rainbow and Sleeping Bunnies

Starting March 1, 2018, there will be a \$5 processing fee added for any tuition payments that are not made through the automatic payment system. We encourage all parents to set up an account using ACH to avoid any fees. Please see the office if you need a form or have any questions.

In celebration of Dr. Seuss' birthday we will be having a Spirit week from 3/5-3/9.

Mixed up Monday: *Wear your shirt backwards or mismatched clothes*

Hat Tuesday: *Wear a silly hat or silly headband*

Wacky Hair Wednesday: *Wear your hair crazy*

Crazy Sock Thursday: *Wear silly or mismatched socks*

Pajama Friday: *Wear your P.J.'s and bring your favorite Dr. Seuss Book*

Happy Anniversary to Ms. Joanne, Ms. Martha, Ms. Raquel and Ms. Cruz who have been with us for 4 years. Your love and patience is appreciated!

Dates to remember:

3/02	Happy Birthday, Dr. Seuss!	3/17	St. Patrick's Day
3/02	Cap and Gown money due for Graduation	3/20	First day of Spring
3/11	Daylight Savings Begins	3/28	Egg Hunt
3/16	Green Day	3/31	Cesar Chavez Day



3580 Mt. Acadia Blvd
San Diego, CA 92111
(858) 560-0985 fax (858) 560-1014

73 North Second Avenue
Chula Vista, CA 91910
(619) 425-9933 fax 619-425-3556

17025 Via Del Campo
San Diego, CA 92127
(858) 592-2335

8 Mistakes Parents Make With Preschoolers

Find out how you can avoid these common parenting missteps.

By [Jennifer Soong](#)

1. Straying Too Much From Routines

When you're not being consistent with your routine, preschoolers get confused and may act out more or throw more [temper tantrums](#). Altmann says, "If sometimes you let them do something and sometimes you don't, they don't understand."

Your child probably wants to know why last time Mommy let her play on the [playground](#) for 10 minutes when school got out but this time wants her to get in the car right away. Or why did Mommy lay down with her for 10 minutes last night while she fell asleep but now says she can't.

Fix it: Be consistent across the board -- whether it's with discipline, [sleep](#) habits, or mealtime routines.

Altmann says if your routine is consistent 90% of the time and your child is doing well, then so are you, and a minor exception may be OK.

2. Focusing on the Negative

It's easy to hone in on your child's negative actions -- like yelling and screaming -- and ignore the good ones.

Altmann says parents tend to focus on what they don't want their preschoolers to do. "They'll say, 'Don't hit. Don't throw. Don't say 'poopy pants,'" she says.

Fix it: Notice when your child is doing something positive, and reward the good behavior.

The reward for positive actions can be your praise, or it can be giving your child a big hug or kiss. "Those types of things really go a long way with preschoolers," Altmann says. Tell your child, "I like the way you sat quietly and listened," or "That was good when you were so friendly to the child on the [playground](#)."

3. Missing the Warning Signs

Parents often try to reason with children when they're in the throes of a [temper tantrum](#), repeating, "Calm down, calm down." But that's like trying to reason with a goldfish, Borba says. "You've got power immediately beforehand when you can still distract or anticipate. But once the tantrum is in full force, you've lost it. The kid is not hearing you."



3580 Mt. Acadia Blvd
San Diego, CA 92111
(858) 560-0985 fax (858) 560-1014

73 North Second Avenue
Chula Vista, CA 91910
(619) 425-9933 fax 619-425-3556

17025 Via Del Campo
San Diego, CA 92127
(858) 592-2335

Fix it: Figure out and anticipate what your kid's natural warning signs are, Borba says. The usual ones are [hunger](#), [fatigue](#), and boredom. So don't take your child to the supermarket unless she's napped or you've stashed a healthy snack in your purse.

4. Encouraging Whining

Does your child's whining drive you crazy? For instance, does it drive you up the wall when, right before dinnertime while getting ready to prepare food, your child starts crying, "I wanna go to the park," or "I wanna go play with Riley."

Borba says parents often give in to these whines, but this only reinforces the attention-getting behavior. Your child will figure out which buttons to push and then push them over and over again.

"This is the age when your children come out of their shells," she says. "Watch out, because they figure out what works."

Fix it: Ignore it. For behavior that isn't aggressive, like a whine or sulk, you're better off if you don't respond to it at all. If you're consistent, Borba says, your child will think, "Well, that didn't work."

5. Overscheduling Your Child

Parents often line up a slew of activities, like dance or music classes. Then they wonder why their child isn't getting in bed and falling asleep right away after so many activities that must have made her tired.

The problem, Altmann says, is that they're still wound up and need time to calm down. Every child needs down time, especially preschoolers, she says. Whether your child is at preschool for two hours or there all day, it can be very exhausting.

Fix it: Don't overschedule your child or shuttle him from one activity to the next. Give your child time to unwind with free play when he gets home from school.

6. Underestimating the Importance of Play

Many parents feel they should sign their children up for enrichment programs to give them an edge. But that's not really the case. What's most enriching at this age, says [psychologist](#) Lawrence J. Cohen, author of *Playful Parenting*, is free play. That includes dramatic play (make believe), rough housing, and goofing around.

"Free play is how children's brains develop best," he says. "In play, children will naturally give themselves the right amount of challenge -- not too easy or too hard."



3580 Mt. Acadia Blvd
San Diego, CA 92111
(858) 560-0985 fax (858) 560-1014

73 North Second Avenue
Chula Vista, CA 91910
(619) 425-9933 fax 619-425-3556

17025 Via Del Campo
San Diego, CA 92127
(858) 592-2335

Fix it: Allow your child time and space for free play. Remember that preschoolers define play as "what you do when you get to choose what to do."

Free choice -- the voluntary aspect of play -- is important, Cohen says. "Preschoolers love to vacuum or do housework, but it's play. It's not on their chore list. They've chosen to do it and they're just doing it for fun," he says.

7. Getting Distracted By the Daily Grind

Your child may play well independently, but that doesn't mean he or she doesn't crave your attention. "There's something children miss out on if parents don't get on the floor and play with them," Cohen says.

Not only do parents not get down and play, many parents are too easily distracted by their cell phone, email, or other multitasking. "Kids aren't dumb," Cohen says. "They know whether we're really paying attention or not."

Fix it: Set a timer, be enthusiastic, and stay involved for your designated play period with your child.

"A half an hour of concentrated play where you give your undivided attention and you're not worried about dinner or work," Cohen says, "is better than all day when you're only half paying attention."

8. Overreacting to Lies

Cohen says lying really freaks parents out. He urges parents to see the behavior as experimenting rather than as "a moral thing."

"When children start to lie, it's a big cognitive advance," he says. "It's kind of exciting and a little bit scary. It has an emotional charge. But then parents freak out and have visions of their child in prison, so they get very tense and anxious about it."

Fix it: Don't overreact. Know that telling a fib or two is a normal part of your child's development.

And don't get hung up on the lie itself, Cohen says. For instance, if your little Pinocchio is denying he had anything to do with a spill, you can say matter-of-factly, "You feel bad about that and I understand."

Effective parenting takes time, patience, and love. It also takes remembering that changes may not happen overnight. But as the old maxim goes, "If at first you don't succeed, try, try again." And again.

WebMD Feature Reviewed by [Dan Brennan, MD](#) on June 24, 2016