

5 Ways to Help your Potty Animal Be a Success

By Heidi Santiago

1. Start early

Introduce the Potty Place early to make your Potty Animal comfortable by reading Wally's Adventure Book, playing with a Wally or Wiley doll, and watching the DVD over and over weeks or months before focused potty training. We do a lot of this in the Potty Place!!!

2. Begin the Potty Animal Track Chart

Keep track of when your Potty Animal goes wee or woo (or whatever words you choose to "consistently" call it). You should discover a pattern, which will help you know when to set the wee-Minder™ device.

3. Prepare for the Great Potty Days to Begin

Schedule at least three days to focus ALL attention on hopping to the Potty Place every hour and celebrating each attempt. Devote the entire time three or so days to teaching and talking about the potty process. The National Pediatrics Association recommends focused training to begin when the child is about two years of age. Remember to schedule a time with little to no distractions. Moves, divorce, illnesses, etc. will significantly hinder your success.

Prepare supplies...order Wally or Wiley's special BIG Girl or Boy Potty Animal underwear (you will need at least ten pairs), cushioned toilet seat inserts or potty chair, charts, stickers, dolls, books and incentives/rewards (www.weeminder.com), and lots of juice.

Prepare yourself mentally to "Put a big smile on your face and hop, hop, hop to the Potty Place". Wee-member your smile for successes and especially for the accidents. Please note the importance of this step; never push, show frustration, or lecture.

4. Plan a Potty Animal Play-date Party

Invite all your Potty Pals or wee-Minder™ gang to celebrate with you and hop to the Potty Place. Kids learn from other kids. Sing "Hip hip hooray, it's a great Potty Day. You're a Big Potty Animal now!" Hop up and down, giving each other a Jumpin' Jolly Wallaby Hug saying, "Good Job Mate! I'm so proud of you!"

Plan a special success party that is unique and special to your child's liking.

5. Be Consistent

Hop to the Potty Place every time the wee-Minder™ sings. Follow through now to reap the rewards later. Emphasize being dry, clean and fresh like Wally and not being wet, itchy and scratchy like Warthog.

Always keep it fun and positive.

Always change them right away if they have an accident, so they do not get comfortable being wet.

Always take them to the bathroom first thing when you go to the store, someone's house, church, etc.

However, remember that just as different kids learn to talk and walk at different stages your child may master potty training sooner or later. Keep it up. If your child is still having problems after 5 years of age with girls and 6 years of age with boys, seek guidance from a pediatrician and/or child psychologist.

Visit www.weeminder.com for more helpful wee-Minders.