Age-Appropriate Responsibilities For Kids

**Ages 2 – 3**
- Help make the bed (pull covers up)
- Pick-up toys
- Hang clothes on hooks
- Carry laundry to and from the laundry area
- Help feed animals
- Help wipe up spills
- Bring in the newspaper
- Mop a small area
- Pour from a small pitcher
- Help pick up the living room

**Ages 4 - 5**
Any of the others plus:
- Make their own bed
- Clear dishes from the table
- Set the table
- Retrieve the mail
- Dust the furniture
- Help in the kitchen
- Help carry and put away groceries

**Ages 6 - 12**
Any of the others plus:
- Take care of pets
- Cook simple foods
- Help wash the car
- Vacuum, sweep and mop
- Clean the bathroom completely
- Rake leaves and shovel snow
- Use the washer and dryer
- Hang and fold laundry
- Take out the trash

**Ages 13 and Up**
Any of the others plus:
- Change light bulbs
- Replace vacuum cleaner bags
- Wash inside and outside of windows
- Clean out refrigerator
- Clean stove and oven
- Prepare a meal
- Make grocery lists
- Do all laundry functions
- Mow the lawn

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**Remember…**

Giving your children regular responsibilities from an early age teaches them that a family is a team and everyone contributes!

It also helps them build their self-esteem and learn crucial life skills such as problem-solving, decision-making, prioritizing, project management, planning, delaying gratification, and others.

In addition, they learn the household skills they'll need to be self-sufficient and living alone, once they leave the nest.