

**Expectations of the young child
(What they will be able to accomplish independently):**

Age 2-3

Sorting

- Sorting laundry into darks and lights
- Matching socks together
- Placing silverware into dishwasher, all forks in one bin, all spoons into another bin, etc.
- Putting clean silverware into the drawer
- Sort toys, clothes by color

Washing

- Wash table with a damp sponge after the child eats (cut sponge in half to fit the hand)
- Wash windows – use small spray bottle with water & a bit of vinegar, wipe with a small absorbent cloth
- Wash potatoes or carrots for dinner (use a small bowl & scrub brush)
- Wash fruits after going to the store (place fruits into a bowl or fridge so it's easy to get a snack)
- Clean kitchen or bathroom floor with a child sized rag mop

Pouring

- Pouring own drinks from a 1 cup sized pitcher
- Watering plants from a small watering can
- Spray leaves with a mister
- Pour water into a vase for arranging flowers they pick

Age 3-4

- Make own bed – even if it's a bit lumpy
- Fold clothes, roll socks
- Fold napkins
- Set table
- Help in all aspects of cooking and baking – learn to crack an egg
- Make own snack and breakfast or lunch
- Dress completely
- Hang up own coat – manages own shoes
- Can help with yard work – can plant and care for own garden plot
- Learn to use tools and help with building projects – sanding, hammering, using screwdriver, etc. (use child sized goggles)
- Learn to sew a button

Age 5-6

- Able to learn to wash a load of laundry – learn how to use appliances
- May vacuum a room
- Learn to measure and bake a simple recipe
- Learns to strike a match and light a candle
- Packs and unpacks own lunchbox and backpack
- Writes shopping list
- Participates in large outdoor projects like digging a hole to plant a tree, washing a car, pitching a tent
- Cares for pets independently
- Packs for an overnight stay
- Can add up deposits in own savings bank account register
- Can pay for items
- Can ask for assistance in finding a particular book in the library or in the bookstore
- Learns to answer the phone correctly
- Learns to embroider

Expectations of an Elementary Aged Child

- Responsible for own laundry, and cleaning his/her bathroom
- Sort mail as it comes in
- Help with family projects – cleaning out the garage, planting a garden, mowing lawn
- Packs own lunch
- Packs for overnight and vacations
- Responsible for thank you cards
- May call to inquire about museum visits, movie times, ask about sale items or prices in a store (also investigate these things online)
- Prepares a meal for the family (weekend)
- Manages own allowance and money (fills out own deposit and withdrawal slip)
- May learn to knit or crochet
- Learns to operate a sewing machine
- May help with large building projects (i.e. a deck, rabbit hutch, etc.)
- May help with auto repair – learn about an engine

Expectations of a Teenaged Child

- Should take responsibility for own nutrition, exercise and adequate sleep
- Planning and cooking a family meal (week night)
- Painting in home (interior – exterior)
- Managing recreational and school time appropriately
- Managing expenses
- Arranging transportation
- Lawn care
- Securing summer or weekend job
- Driving
- Engaging in some type of community service – helping younger kids, soup kitchen, elderly neighbor, etc.