

Children, Chores and Lending a Hand at Home
By Laurie Luebbe
Article attached by Momentum Life in New Zealand



As I get to know students around school, one of the things I like to ask is, “Do you have chores or jobs at home?” I often get the reply, “What are chores?” When I rephrase the question to explain that chores are a way kids can help at home, the reply, is “OH, like homework?” They may mention, “I clean up my toys.” As a parent, whose children would rather donate blood than unload the dishwasher or clean the bathrooms, I think there are some solid benefits to the somewhat dreaded word, CHORES.

My father was raised during the Great Depression in the USA. He had a list of chores longer than a line at a give-away day at Yang’s Dumplings. He would feed the chickens, milk the cows, pick the peas, hang out the laundry, wash the dishes and basically anything else his parents would

throw at him and his six siblings in South Alabama. They did all that and still had time to play in the creeks and dig for arrowheads. But those were different times, for sure.

Today, most of our children here at SCIS are living a very different life than our parents and grandparents or even us. But, are we forgetting the values that children learn from lending a hand?

I am not afraid to mention, that even though I think chores are great, I have not always been great at delegating jobs.

Here are some reasons why I feel that...

- ❖ My Ayi or I can do it faster. (usually the Ayi)
- ❖ I want it done right.
- ❖ My kids are so tired from a long day at school and sports.
- ❖ I just don't want to hear the whining.

Of course, not many kids like chores, but there are some things to consider about helping around the home that may teach your child(ren) valuable life skills. I don't know about you, but when my children were younger, they loved to help wash dishes or sweep or in one case take all the wet laundry off the line and pile it on the living room table. What happened to those days?

Please take a moment to read the attached article written by Momentum life in New Zealand. I'd love to hear your thoughts about children and chores.

<https://www.momentumlife.co.nz/stories/why-kids-should-have-chores>

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