

# PICK-UP Partners



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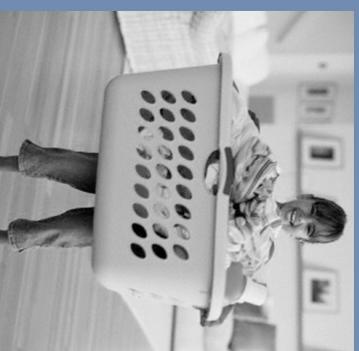
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Most parents spend anywhere from 15 minutes to 45 minutes a day picking up and putting away junk that kids leave out: clothes, shoes, backpacks, wet towels, toys, dishes, milk cartons, video game equipment, tooth brushes, you name it. At 30 minutes a day, that adds up to 182 hours a year, or 22 eight-hour days of work. Wow! That's like a month of vacation!!

PICK-UP PARTNERS can get you out of that habit quickly and put the burden back on the children — where it belongs. Kids should be responsible for picking up their own things and cleaning up their own messes. Here is how it works: Your children take turns each week being the family Pick-Up Partner, using a basket or a box to pick up what's left out at the end of the day. Everyone's stuff. Talk to them about how being grown-up means taking on

more responsibility and along with that comes privileges. Trade privileges for this new responsibility and use the cards included to make sure everyone understands the deal. The PICK-UP partner earns a point for every item he/she picks up and the person who leaves items out loses a point for every item. What often happens is that the kids realize how much work it is, and they start nagging each other to pick up their own things. What an unexpected bonus that is!





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# Instructions for PICK-UP Partners

**MATERIALS NEEDED:** You'll need paper that is heavier-than-normal weight for printing. Staples has a great Professional Business (matte, not glossy) paper by HP that is 48 lbs and prints beautiful colors on most home printers. You'll also need scissors, a glue stick, a hole punch, a glass jar to hold the PICK-UP Partner tags, tape (double sided is better, but not necessary) to adhere the label to the jar and 1/4-inch white ribbon (optional).



1. Print one each of the 3 pages for PICK-UP Partners, and extras of the first page if you want more than four tags. There are 4 on the page and you only need one per week, but it's so much easier to do them all now than to go back later and make more. Cut out the tags, the jar label, and the HOW-TO fold-out, cutting just inside the dotted line.



2. Fold the tags in half lengthwise, crease with your thumbnail or the smooth edge of a table knife, then glue the two halves together. Set them under or inside a heavy book to dry flat.



3. This is optional, but you can tie a piece of ribbon through the hole you punch in the top of each tag, for decorative purposes.



4. Glue the two sections of the HOW-TO foldout together using the blank flap.



5. Fold the HOW-TO fold-out accordion-style as shown in image #5.



6. Tape the label to the glass jar and set the PICK-UP Partner tags in the jar, ready to use and easy to access.