

# it worked for me!

## CLEAN SWEEP

My 2-year-old daughter always wants to help out when I'm sweeping the floor with our Swiffer. I was concerned, though, that she'd whack herself or someone else with the pole because it was too big for her to hold.

So I removed two sections of the pole, and it's now the perfect size.

She loves helping me, and I get my chores done faster.  
Stacey Zoller; Manitowoc, Wis.



## BUMP IT UP

To keep my almost 2-year-old son, Kooper, from rolling out of his bed at night, I wrapped a pool noodle in a fleece blanket and tucked it under his sheets at the edge of his bed. It gives Kooper a little "wall bump" of protection, but he can still climb in and out of bed safely and easily.

Brittney Bray; Belews Creek, N.C.

## ROLL CALL

After I get my kids' class pictures, I frame them and keep them on our kitchen table. This way, my children can point to the pictures to refer to their classmates when we're talking during dinner. Before long, the members of our family know all of the students in each class.

Renée Nelson; East Islip, N.Y.



## PACK AND PLAY

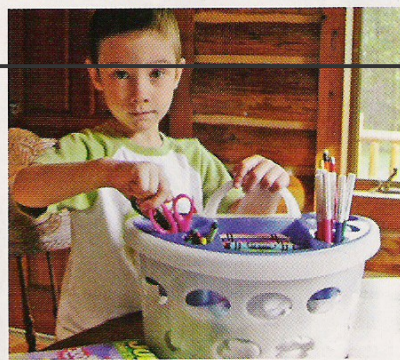
We prepared our 2½-year-old son, Noah, for moving to a new home by using small jewelry boxes, a toy truck, and a dollhouse to simulate moving day. He enjoyed placing the boxes and furniture on the truck and then unloading them at the dolls' new house. It was a great way to help him understand the process of moving before we had to go through it with him ourselves.

Michele C. Scott; Honey Brook, Pa.

## CRAFT CARRIER

I use a shower caddy with multiple compartments to organize my 5-year-old's school and craft supplies. There's plenty of room for crayons, markers, glue sticks, an art smock, and more. Best of all, it's completely transportable and we can take it with us wherever we're working in the house.

Kimberly Wallace; Condon, Mont.



## PHOTO FINISH

To get my 7-month-old son, Tyler, to sit still for photographs, I set the self-timer on my camera and then put it down on a table. This way, I'm free to stand nearby making silly faces and the camera still takes a clear, unblurry shot.

Courtney La Rosa; Wantagh, N.Y.

## SAFETY STRIP

I attached a magnetic strip to the inside door of my medicine cabinet to hold my nail clippers, tweezers, metal files, and other small bathroom objects. It's an easy way to organize all my tools in one place, and it keeps those sharp objects out of my children's reach.

Christine D. Hegstad; Ankeny, Iowa



## TIDY TOYS

I decorate large cardboard boxes with pictures from *Parents* magazine—the boxes are the perfect size to store all my son Benedict's toys. It's easy to cut out different pictures and change them whenever we want, so Benedict gets a "new" toy box every few months. It's a fun way to recycle.

Theresa Pisano; Shirley, N.Y.