

# TEACH ONE REACH ONE

## Tips for Teaching Kids About Following Instructions

1. Start with one-step directions. Following directions is a growth process. When your kids can follow one-step directions well, you can give them two-step directions.
2. Ask them to repeat the instructions. Often, children only listen to a part of the instructions. Having them repeat what you said allows you to make sure they heard everything.
3. Make sure they understand the instructions. Your children may think cleaning their rooms means something entirely different than what you mean.
4. Make sure they know how to do what is asked of them. Demonstrate a new skill, then give them practice with you by their side to give them help. Once they demonstrate an ability to do the task, the verbal instructions should be enough information.
5. Teach your kids why it is important to follow instructions carefully. Explain to them what consequences can happen if they don't follow instructions carefully.
6. Teach them to read all of the steps of written instructions before starting the task. Often one of the later steps cannot be completed because an initial step was not taken properly or all of the necessary items to complete the task weren't gathered.
7. Help your children develop a submissive, obedient heart. Following instructions is a form of obedience. A rebellious heart will make it difficult for your kids to follow instructions or obey authority figures and God.

## Bible Verses to Share With Your Kids About Following Instructions

- Hebrews 13:17
- Proverbs 1:8
- 1 John 2:3-4
- 2 Thessalonians 2:14-15
- Proverbs 13:1
- John 15:10
- Luke 6:46