

Potty Training at Hazel Creek

If your child is in diapers while attending Hazel Creek, we ask that you provide disposable diapers for them to wear. Please bring in a bulk amount with their name marked on the package. We will inform you when they run low. We will provide wipes for cleaning. We do not apply ointment unless it is accompanied with a medical release form. We will keep a "log" book to track your child's potty schedule. We will record all of the diaper changes so that you will be able to check what their daily habits are at school. We will change diapers on a regular schedule unless we notice that they need an extra change in addition to that schedule.

As your child develops, we will encourage them to use the potty at the time of changing diapers. Should your child start using the potty on a regular basis, initiated by the child, we can begin using pull-ups. If your child is not ready to tell the teacher that they need to "poop" on the potty in the toddler room, we will continue to use diapers versus pull-ups for ease of changing. Please include clothing changes for your child in case they get wet or soiled.

When your child graduates into the napper room, at the point that your child is asking to go potty but is not yet fully potty trained, we can use pull-ups for ease of independence on the potty. Once your child can tell the teachers that they need to go poop on the potty, and are consistent at doing so, we can transition into underwear. If your child is successful at home but still too distracted at school, even with a potty routine and reminders, we will need to keep them in a pull-up until they have an awareness and willingness to alert the teacher that they need to go on the toilet when they are in both the classroom and outside. We find this is necessary for sanitation reasons. We remain extremely positive with children going through this phase of their development. We encourage parents not to stress about the process, but to continue to also remain positive, supportive and understanding of their child's situation at both home and in a school setting. You will often find your child will be successful for a period of time or in certain circumstances and will still have reoccurring accidents for various reasons. We never consider this to be a set-back, but merely an ongoing process that we are all working at, together, in order to reach the ultimate goal of independence.

If a child is still wearing a diaper or pull-up at school, we ask that they do not participate in the swimming program until they master potty training. If a child wears "swimmers," and they still poop in the "swimmer," the result is the same. Any fecal matter that enters the pool shuts the pool down for the rest of our students and requires us to treat the pool with additional chemicals.

We highly recommend the book, 'Oh Crap Potty Training' as a guideline for this challenging time. We do however feel, that parents will need to recognize that what is recommended in the book will perhaps need to be tailored to each individual child. While the book recommends that the child does not wear pull-ups during the time of "training," we find that we will not be able to follow the recommendation in our setting if they are still having accidents. As with any child during their development, some children potty train more quickly than others and perhaps more easily. Please know that we are here to help in every capacity with this challenging time. We have done this successfully now for over 28 years and to our knowledge, have never had a child not achieve this important milestone along with having a healthy emotional attitude towards potty training.