

# Raising Kind and Caring Children



## Pre-reading

### Questions:

- Who taught you to be kind and caring?
- Do you know how to teach your child to be kind and care for others?

### Definitions:

- Encourage – to say or do things to make someone feel good about their actions
- Elderly – old or aging
- Volunteer – to offer to help or do something of one’s own free will, without being paid
- Praise – to give approval, telling someone they did a good job
- Behavior – a way of acting

## Reading

13 Encouraging kindness in children is an important responsibility for all adults. Children who  
31 are kind and caring have an easier time making friends and do better in school. Children who are  
51 kind and caring are **pleasant** to live with and nice to be around. As a parent, you can help teach  
your child to be kind and caring.

58 Here are some things that you can do to help **develop** kind and caring children:

- 73 ♦ Set a good example by showing kindness and caring toward others. Children do what they  
88 see. If they see you being kind and caring, they will do the same.
- 102 ♦ Work with your children to show them how to be kind and caring. Together make some  
118 food and bring to an elderly neighbor. Volunteer together to watch a single mom’s child for  
134 the day. Work together to wash the extra vegetables from your garden to bring to the local  
151 food shelf.
- 153 ♦ Talk to your children about how they feel when they do nice things for others. Talk about  
171 the feelings of others. Talk about how it feels when someone is kind to them. Talk about  
189 how it feels when someone is unkind to them.
- 196 ♦ Discuss with your children how important it is to be kind to others and to care for others.  
214 Explain that not everyone has someone kind and caring in their life. When we show  
229 kindness and caring, others will learn from us.
- 237 ♦ Help your child understand that our schools and communities will be a better place to live  
253 when we are kind and caring. Help them understand that their kindness and caring **makes a**  
269 **difference**.
- 270 ♦ Praise your child when you see them being kind or caring. Tell them you like that  
286 behavior. Tell them you are proud of them! Thank them and give them a hug!

## Understanding

1. What should you do if you see your children being kind to someone? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Whose responsibility is it to encourage kindness and caring in children? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What does the word **develop** mean? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What could you and your children do with the extra vegetables in your garden? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. What does the word **pleasant** mean? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. List two things you can do to develop kindness and caring in a child? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. What do you think the phrase **makes a difference** means? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Writing

Option A: Tell about the person or people that taught you to be caring and kind.

Option B: In your own words, tell how you can develop children so they are kind and caring.

Option C: Write about someone you know that is kind and caring.

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