

AUNTIE COME TO VISIT

This book's pointers

Isn't there a time when you find yourself getting really irritated when you want to get something done but your child keeps interrupting?

As a result you end up scolding your child don't you?

The scolding can escalate into bringing up past bad behaviour, ("You always do this! You always do that!"), pointing out character flaws, and criticizing the child's personality.

It is very important to suppress your own needs, and be as patient as possible with you child.

This story shows that to clearly explain the situation to the child, to help the child to understand what the appropriate behaviour is in that particular situation, and to recognize and praise their efforts, is essential.



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One day the door chime rings at Aya-chan's house.

When Aya-chan and her mother go to the front door Aya-chan's favorite aunt Yasuko is standing there.

Aunt Yasuko is Aya-chan's mother's sister.

She has come to discuss a serious issue.

Aya-chan assumes that aunt Yasuko is going to play with her as usual, and she is jumping up and down with excitement.

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Aya-chan's mother and aunt Yasuko sit down on the sofa and start to talk.

Aya-chan put a drawing set, some dolls, and other things to play with, on the table.

But both her mother and aunt Yasuko are totally absorbed in their conversation.

"Hey, hey, auntie, look at this! This is really interesting isn't it?!"

Are you listening to me?!"

Aya-chan is so desperate to get aunt Yasuko's attention.

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But aunt Yasuko only gives her a smile, and doesn't really pay attention to her.

Finally Aya-chan starts to walk around the table, blowing a trumpet really hard.

Then.....

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"That's enough Ayako! You are being very noisy!

Go and play somewhere else! When someone is visiting us you always try to interfere by being noisy!

No one will like you for behaving like that!"

Aya-chan is reprimanded by her mother.

Aya-chan is so upset that she finally starts to cry.

This happens a lot doesn't it?

How about trying it this way?

Aya-chan's favorite aunt Yasuko came to the house today.

Aya-chan's mother sits down next to her, looks her directly in the eye, and talks to her softly:

"Listen to me Aya-chan. Aunt Yasuko and I have something really important to talk about.

I need you to be quiet, and draw by yourself until we finish talking. Can you promise to do that?"

"Yes. I can promise." Aya-chan agrees right away, because she loves to draw.

Aya-chan and her mother make an agreement beforehand.

Aya-chan sits close to her mother and starts to draw.

Her mother and aunt Yasuko are caught up in their conversation.

From time to time they giggle, and talk loudly.

15 minutes have already passed.

Aya-chan is getting a little bored.

She is also thinking that she would like to be included in their conversation.

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At this moment, her mother says to her; "Aya-chan, you must be getting bored by now. Although you wanted to talk with us you have been very patient. Thank you. I am very grateful that I have been able to have this important conversation with your aunt. Oh, what did you draw? Why don't you show it to us?" Aya-chan's mother strokes Aya-chan's hair as she speaks softly to her.

Aya-chan stands in front of them and shows them her drawing.

Aya-chan's efforts have been noticed and she has been praised for them.

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"Wow! That's beautiful! It looks like a bride! You drew me didn't you?" Aunt Yasuko is planning on getting married soon.

She is here today to talk about that.

"Aya-chan, can you continue with the drawing a little bit longer? Just for 15 minutes more. Let's have a snack at 3:00 o'clock. I'll set the alarm"

Aya-chan's mother says, whilst she holds Aya-chan close on her lap.

The timing is being made clear and easy to understand.

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"OK. I'll draw an even more beautiful bride for you."

Aya-chan does her very best to be patient.

Finally she puts the clock in front of her and begins the countdown.

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At last it is 3:00 o'clock.

"Thank you for being such a good girl, Aya-chan. You did very well to keep your promise." Aya-chan's mother holds her close as she talks to her.

"Thank you for waiting Aya-chan. I was able to have a good talk with your mother. Wow! You did an amazing drawing. This girl looks much prettier than me!" Aunt Yasuko also praises her.

Aya-chan enjoys the strawberry cake that aunt Yasuko brought. The deliciously sweet cream melts in her mouth.

Aya-chan kept her promise and her mother and aunt are praising her for all her efforts to do