

## **CURRICULUM CORNER**

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## **Partners in Potty Learning**

Starting down the potty learning path can feel like a huge step and we want to be your partner on the journey to potty success. Taking a team approach in which home and school are in sync can mean a more positive --and perhaps a shorter -- experience for you and your child.

If you are noticing signs of readiness at home, and feel like a good window of opportunity is approaching, your teachers would love to know. They can share with you what signs they are noticing in the classroom and aim to get on the same page as you in terms of pace. Your teachers can answer any questions you might have about what is possible at school. For example, when your child "produces" in the potty we CAN clap and cheer, but we can't give them an M&M! We can make suggestions for what elements, when combined, mean it is a good time to go for it. If a big life change is approaching, like a new home or a new sibling, we might suggest you wait.

As with any type of learning, no one size fits all and the approach should be tailored to the child's individual personality. Some children are most successful with more of a "rip the Band-Aid off" approach in which diapers are totally gone, while other children prefer the comfort of a slower progression that might start with a casual trip to the store to browse for the undies they like best. The goal for home and school is to be as positive, low-key and consistent as possible. Try to seem relaxed and optimistic about this big, new developmental step (easier said than done!) and let your teachers help you navigate the ups and downs.

This <u>site</u> has great articles on how "potty readiness" involves the heart, mind and body. It explains how children need to be physically, cognitively and emotionally ready.