

Getting your child to come when you call

When children start doing something, they have a hard time stopping. They need time to change from what they are doing to what you want them to do. Children take a long time to slow down and stop. You can help your child by giving them time to get ready to stop their play. This helps them learn how to make a transition from one thing to another.

For example, you can say,

“Dinner will be ready soon. You have only a few minutes to finish what you are doing.”

Then wait three or four minutes and say, *“Dinner is almost ready. Please stop what you are doing. Come and wash your hands.”* Remember that children cannot tell time so if you give them a time limit, such as 5 minutes, it is best to set a timer or some other reminder so they can learn how long 5 minutes is.

Be careful when you say, “one more time.” Make sure that “one more time” means one more time and not ten more times. Use this way to teach your child how to slow down, and they will behave better and better.