

Try It Today

Practical Parenting Checklists from Building Good Kids by J A Epperson

Chapter: Scout Law 101 - What-s the Big Deal?	
[] Make a family poster of the 12 points of the Scout Law.	
[] Choose one value to focus on this week.	
[] Ask your child, 'Which one of these do you think matters most?'	
[] Watch a family movie and discuss which Scout Law values characters demonstrated.	
[] End dinner with: 'Who did you help today?'	
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Chapter: Trustworthy - Building a Foundation of Honesty
[] Create a 'truth jar' and drop a coin/treat in when someone tells a hard truth.
[] Share a time you told the truth even when it was tough.
[] Avoid 'trap questions'-ask honestly.
[] Praise your child when they admit a mistake.
[] Try the 'Trust Walk' activity with blindfolded guidance.

Chapter: Loyal - Sticking Together in a World of Ghosting [] Tell a story about a time someone stayed loyal to you. [] Discuss healthy boundaries in friendships. [] Help your child send a letter or video message to a long-distance friend or grandparent. [] Identify one family member to show extra support this week. [] Create a family 'Mission Statement' that reflects your values.

Chapter: Helpful and Friendly - Raising Kids Who Care [] Start a 'Kindness Jar' to reward unexpected helpful or friendly actions. [] Challenge your child to do one friendly act today without being asked. [] Ask your child to find someone left out at school and invite them to play. [] Have a 'helping day'-choose one neighbor or family member to help together. [] Praise your child when they help a sibling or classmate.

Chapter: Courteous and Kind - Manners in the Digital Age	
[] Have a conversation about online manners-commenting, tagging, tone.	
[] Use the 'Is it true, kind, and necessary?' rule before speaking/posting.	
[] Practice saying 'please' and 'thank you' in everyday interactions.	
[] Start a dinner table tradition: each person gives a compliment to someone else.	
[] Write a thank-you note together for someone your child appreciates.	
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Chapter: Obedient - Following Rules Without Being a Pushover	
[] Choose one house rule and explain why it exists.	
[] Let your child propose a rule to add or revise and discuss it together.	
[] Set a goal for your child to follow through on a family expectation today.	
[] Discuss the difference between good rules and bad rules.	
[] Practice respectfully saying 'no' to peer pressure with role-play.	
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Chapter: Cheerful - Finding the Bright Side (Even When It-s Cloudy)	
[] Start a 'Three Good Things' bedtime routine.	
[] Make a family 'Gratitude Jar' and add one thing each day.	
[] Talk about a hard day and find a silver lining together.	
[] Create a 'Cheer Up Kit' with favorite books, snacks, or photos.	
[] Introduce the idea of 'slaying dragons'-overcoming little frustrations.	

Chapter: Thrifty - Raising Responsible Consumers in a Throwaway World	
[] Take your child to a thrift store or help them sell something online.	
[] Give a small budget for a treat and let them compare prices.	
[] Have a family no-spend day and plan free activities.	
[] Watch a documentary on fast fashion or environmental impact.	
[] Create a simple allowance system with saving, spending, and giving jars.	

Chapter: Brave - Courage in the Age of Cyberbullying [] Talk about what courage means-not being fearless but doing what's right. [] Share a time you were brave and how it felt. [] Help your child stand up for someone or speak out kindly online. [] Role-play a situation where your child might need to resist peer pressure. [] Start a 'Courage Journal' where your child writes one brave thing each day.

Chapter: Clean - It-s Not Just About Tidying Up [] Start a five-minute tidy race with upbeat music. [] Teach your child about digital cleanliness-file names, inboxes, etc. [] Set a hygiene goal (teeth, nails, shower) and track it with stickers. [] Have an eco-friendly challenge like collecting litter or reducing water waste. [] Let your child take charge of cleaning one small area every day.

Chapter: Reverent - Respecting Beliefs in a Diverse World	
[] Explore a new culture or tradition together-food, story, or music.	
[] Talk about someone you admire who shows respect to all people.	
[] Attend or learn about another religion or cultural celebration together.	
[] Create a 'Respect Ripple' challenge: show one act of respect each day.	
[] Model active listening when discussing differences in beliefs.	
Parents' Guide	