

Top 3 Best Parenting Tips I've Tried

Not much feels better than a piece of advice that works perfectly for you. Sometimes, out of the blue, parenting advice can come from nowhere and be exactly what you need for your child.

In [last week's blog post](#), I shared three parenting tips that really didn't help us. Even maybe failed.

What can keep you sane while parenting are those times where you actually (almost accidentally) get something right.

The Top 3 Best Parenting Tips I've Tried

#3. Making the Baby Share a Room

Whoever invented the term "sleeping like a baby" never raised one. Babies sleep very lightly and can wake frequently during the



night. I actually celebrated the day Caleb started sleeping in his own crib. We had our bedroom back again!

So, when our second son came along, we had a major decision to

make. Since we lived in a split-level home, we contemplated giving the baby the room next to ours and sending our 5-year-old to sleep downstairs. But, when I mentioned it to a dear friend, she told me her boys actually slept better sharing the same room.

We tried it, and the boys liked it. Easy enough for us. Now we didn't have to move any furniture downstairs. (Sweet!)

#2. Let Them Struggle.

This next one is something I have learned, not only in raising my own kids, but in teaching as well.

Kids **need** to struggle.

Yes. You heard me correctly Millennials of America! Clear away the clouds of entitlement that you are disillusioned with and listen up! Kids need to wrestle with challenges and learn how to do things by figuring it out on their own.



I regret not allowing our firstborn to struggle more. I was too wrapped up in him getting it right that I didn't just let him explore and try. As he got older, I learned how to loosen up. One of my favorite things to say now is "You're a smart guy. You can figure it out."

Our youngest son sure was a wake up call. From the first day, I knew he was going to be a fighter, and his struggles have made him one tough little guy. Every day he comes home with a new scrape or bruise to prove it.

#1. Tell Them You're Sorry and Ask for

Forgiveness.

I wonder if as a parent we make more mistakes than our children do. Probably.

So, there has been plenty of opportunities for this one. If anything, I don't think I've said sorry enough.



The best way to teach your child is to show them by example. They will naturally gravitate to following in your footsteps. When you show them your love by apologizing, it reveals how important they are to you. It also teaches them humility and how to take responsibility for their mistakes.

When I have come to them with an apology, my kids have always responded graciously with love, quick to forgive. One of the things I love most about kids is how immediately they make amends.

This tip will also come in handy for our children when they have their own to chase. And then you can smile that way all grandparents do when they see their adult child learning to parent, too.

What is some of the best advice you followed as a parent? Please share a comment below, and if you enjoyed this article, click on the star or share it with someone else.