

How The S Word Helps With Potty Training

Description

Weâ€™ve been in the midst of potty training for about two weeks now and have been seeing slow but steady progress. Hopefully weâ€™re through the initial phase which I assume is the hardest part. Thanks in part to the S word, and of course a few healthy treat incentives like [No Sugar-Added Lilyâ€™s Dark Chocolate Chips](#) sweetened with stevia.



Iâ€™ll admit, Daddy got a treat every time she went potty too. Theyâ€™re just too good *not* to sneak a few bites!

There are many potty training methods, and while we havenâ€™t followed any of them to the T, the method we practiced most was the [Two-Day Method](#) a neighbor friend shared with us. Yes, the fact that I stay home with our daughter was a big factor here, but it can be done over the weekend too. As our friend recommends, aim to try when you have an extended weekend from a holiday or just take an extra day off.

Since Iâ€™m not here to lay out a full potty training program, Iâ€™ll spare you the minute details. Just know that within the week, after having our daughter in the house with diapers off, asking â€œDo you need to go potty?â€• more times than there are days in a year (Every. Day), and listening to a very unhappy kid who wanted to poop in her diaper, we actually made progress.

We felt hopeless at first, but many puddles and plops, a few successes with chocolate chip rewards, and use of the S word later, our little girl is going to the potty all by herself.

No, Iâ€™m not talking about the multitude of books on [Socialism, Secrets, Suicide, Submission, and S**t with the title *The S Word*](#). Iâ€™m talking about snakes!



Kids are fascinated with all kinds of creatures, and since she has a reptile-loving daddy, she started using “snake” to describe what she made in the potty. After her first BIG success in the potty, she stood up, turned around, and proclaimed “Ooooo, it’s a big snake! Hissssss!”

This was a proud dad moment on many levels. I mean, she freakin made a successful poop in her potty! After cleaning several plops on the floor and couch, I was beyond happy to see this milestone. As for the smell, not so much. Since that first snake, she’s made an entire family snakes almost every day.

Mommy snake, daddy snake, and several baby snakes have all been spotted in the potty. If she’s reluctant to sit on the potty but my wife and I see that she’s overly squirmy, we just ask her to try and make a snake. 8 times out of 10, she will at least give it a shot squeeze. And 9 times out of 10, a snake, big or small, makes an appearance.

She now knows to pull her underwear down and sit on her potty by herself. If we are outside or not at home, she sometimes says she needs to go potty, but this is still a work in progress. For that we are using [The Honest Company Training Pants](#) at night time and while out and about. Gone are the days of our cloth diapers, it’s [Elmo undies](#) and training pants here on out. Eventually going to just undies of course. I’m not sure what turned her on to liking Elmo so much though.



Ohhhh yeah, nothing like watching Sesame Street on the pot. #ToddlerLife

We are proud of our little semi-potty trained girl. There's nothing like being in the kitchen and all of the sudden hearing her going "Hisss-hissss-hisssssssss!" after making a "snake" in the potty. True story, I heard her hissing and thought she was just making animal sounds so I chimed in and hissed too. Then I turned around to an odd smell and her undies down. Go Avery!

If you're in the process or getting ready to start potty training, either get your kids excited about snakes or some other poop-shaped creature and learn the sound they make to use it as a form of victory call after pooping in the potty. Oh, but don't forget the chocolate chip rewards. I know, it's an ironic treat to have for poop, so feel free to use your own reward system.

After a week or two, they'll be so proud of using the potty, they may not care about the rewards anymore. But they're never proud enough to want pictures taken, so don't do this!.



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