



**First Virtues**

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**DOING YOUR BEST**

Children are growing up in a world where fast is good but hyper-speed is better. So how can a young child embrace the proverb that “hard work is worthwhile” (Proverbs 14:23)? Among young children who think concretely, examples often speak louder than words. Help a child smooth the covers on the bed, then stand back with him to admire the extra bit of work. Make a game of collecting all the blocks from the floor before joining your child in an ear-splitting cheer for the great job. When we set high but developmentally appropriate standards, children will stretch to reach them, especially if we stand alongside to help.

**THINK**

- Pulls all the weeds in a long garden row
- Returns a book to the shelf instead of leaving it on the floor
- Practices—again and again—kicking the soccer ball
- Brushes to get out all the tangles
- Lines up shoes in the closet