1-2-3 Magic: Effective Discipline For Children 2-12

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The gold standard of parenting books and a 2016 Family Choice Award winner! "1-2-3 Magic made parenting fun again."
"My three-year-old has become a different little girl, and she is so much happier now." "All I have to say is that the ideas in this book really WORK! It really is like magic!"
"Our home has become a much more positive place."
The sixth edition of the 1.7 million-copy bestseller 1-2-3 Magic by internationally acclaimed parenting expert Thomas W. Phelan, Ph.D. compiles two decades of research and experience into an easy-to-use program designed for parents striving to connect more deeply with their children and help them develop into healthy, capable teenagers and adults. Dr. Phelan breaks down the complex task of parenting into three straightforward steps:
1. Helping your children learn how to control their emotions and refrain from negative behavior, including tantrums, whining, and sibling rivalry
2. Encouraging good behavior in your children and providing positive feedback
3. Strengthening your relationships with your children to reinforce the natural parent-child bond
You'll find tools to use in virtually every situation, as well as real-life stories from parents who have successfully navigated common parenting challenges such as reluctance to do chores, talking back, and refusing to go to bed or getting up in the middle of the night. For years, millions of parents from all over the world have used the award-winning 1-2-3 Magic program to help their children develop emotional intelligence, raise healthier, happier families, and put the fun back into parenting. Along with other highly-respected parenting classics such as How to Talk So Kids Will Listen & Listen So Kids Will Talk, Parenting with Love and Logic, The 5 Love Languages of Children, No Drama Discipline, and The Whole Brain Child, 1-2-3 Magic is an essential tool for parents hoping to connect more deeply with their children.

**Book Information**

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I bought this book because I have a friend that uses counting with her nearly 8 year old daughter and she swears by it and I wanted to learn more about it. I can see that it is very effective at stopping unwanted behavior because I’ve never seen my friend get past the count of one. The only problem is that she’s having trouble connecting with her daughter and she gets upset because she feels that her daughter does not respect her anymore because when she talks to her, a lot of the time she just quietly sighs, rolls her eyes and walks away and ignores her. She still has a good relationship with her daughter but I think it is upsetting to her because it’s just not as good as she would like it to be. After reading the book I think I understand why she’s having this problem connecting with her daughter. There is a chapter on sympathetic listening for the purpose of bonding and building your relationship with your child but it’s an absolute joke. The author makes it sound as if listening to your child is just something you need to grin and bare and the examples he uses are nothing more then paying lip service to your child’s feelings. The book tells you that the distinction between empathy and sympathy is not important and the point of listening is just to listen to and sympathize what they’re saying and this will help them feel respected. I disagree with this and I think the distinction is very important. Sympathetic listening is wonderful and it will defiantly make your child feel more respected. But the way you really connect with someone on a deeper level is by actually empathizing with that person and really taking the time imagine yourself in their situation and how that would make you feel.

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