

LISTENING TIME. CHORES. TRANSCRIPT

What are chores? These are routine tasks that you have to do and usually, when we say chores, we're talking about tasks you have to do at home. People have to do many chores every week. Adults do chores, and many kids do chores, too.

When I was a kid, I did a few different chores at home. I had to clean my room often. This is one chore that most children need to do. We're responsible for our bedroom. We have to organise things and put things away.

The "phrase put things away" means that you put things where they belong, like the closet, dresser or desk.

When I was a kid, I liked keeping my room organised. I never left toys or clothes on the floor. Another chore I did was take the trash out. When the trash bags were full, I took them to our big trash bins. These are the big containers where you put trash. In the US, the garbage truck comes once a week to collect your trash so I had to take the trash bins to the curb the night before.

The "curb" is the edge of the sidewalk, next to the street.

Nowadays, I still take the trash out every week. One chore I don't like is cleaning the bathroom. This was the worst thing I had to do when I was young. I'm not good at things like this and it always took me a long time to finish. In particular, I hated cleaning the toilet. I always thought this was a little gross, or disgusting.

The easiest chore that I did as a kid was bringing the newspaper inside. Every morning, I went out to get the newspaper, which was always on the ground in front of our house. I always brought it inside for my parents, but nowadays, fewer people read physical newspapers, so it's not the same.

One other important thing about chores is that children usually earn an allowance when they do them. An "allowance" is money that parents give to their children. Usually, if children do all their chores, they get this reward. I earned an allowance when I was a kid. I used this money to buy things that I wanted.

Many parents like giving their children an allowance because it teaches them that "hard work pays off". This means that if you work hard, you'll get a reward afterwards. It also teaches children that everyone has to work if they want to make money. You can't earn money if you don't do anything. With chores and an allowance, children learn responsibility and they learn how to work hard.

VOCABULARY

allowance (noun) - an amount of money that is given to somebody regularly or for a particular purpose

bag (noun) - a container made of cloth, leather, plastic or paper, used to carry things in, especially when shopping or travelling

bin (noun) - a container that you put waste in

closet (noun) - a small room or a space in a wall with a door that reaches the floor, used for storing things

desk (noun) - a piece of furniture like a table, often with drawers (= parts like boxes in it with handles on the front for pulling them open), that you sit at to read, write, work, etc.

disgusting (adjective) - extremely unpleasant

dresser (noun) - a large piece of wooden furniture with shelves in the top part and cupboards below, used for displaying and storing cups, plates, etc.

gross (adjective) - extremely unpleasant

kids (noun) - a child or young person

physical (adjective) - connected with things that actually exist or are present and can be seen, felt, etc. rather than things that only exist in a person's mind

reward (noun) - a thing that you are given because you have done something good, worked hard, etc.

sidewalk (noun) - a flat part at the side of a road for people to walk on

toys (noun) - an object for children to play with

trash (noun) - things that you throw away because you no longer want or need them