

WE'VE GOT MAIL! 😊

PARENTS DISCOVER THAT INDEED, IT TAKES A VILLAGE TO RAISE A CHILD.



Ms Teng with her two-year-old son at the beach with her extended family



As a mother of two and with a third one on the way, I am convinced that it truly takes a village to raise a child. Hence, I have made efforts to establish my "village". I have a support group of like-minded mummies who share a similar parenting approach. We organise playdates for our kids to socialise with one another while we catch up. I also involve my mum and parents-in-law in bringing up my kids. This fosters family togetherness. At the same time, I am able to tap on the strengths of having a bilingual household as my children can pick up Chinese from their grandparents and this helps build their language and communication skills.

Lim Hui Chee
Mother of two, aged 2 and 4



Ms Lim's sons with their grandparents

Photos courtesy of Joannette Teng and Lim Hui Chee



My husband has four siblings and our families live near each other. Our children will be at their grandparents' place before or after school. We head there after work for dinner and to bring the children home. Our extended family is a great help to my husband and I in raising our toddler. For example, my parents-in-law send him to and fetch him from the child care centre. They also take care of his bath and dinner. We believe too, that being part of a big family has created a sense of community and helped our elder son to develop his language and social skills.

Joannette Teng
Mother of two, aged 2 and 2 months



When she was a toddler, my strong-willed daughter would create a commotion to get what she wanted. She is now in Kindergarten One and her behaviour couldn't be more different! I attribute this to the positive role-modelling of my 84 year-old grandmother who is always very patient with her great-granddaughter. Whenever my daughter throws a tantrum, my grandmother would calm her by being affectionate. She even takes the time to praise my daughter when she displays positive behaviours.

Gary Teo
Father of twins, aged 4



WHEN YOUR TODDLER IS A BABY NO MORE ...

Children grow up so fast! Parents, tell us about that moment when you realised your pre-schooler is no longer a toddler! Attach a photo with your anecdote, and your not-so-little one may appear in the next issue of *Beanstalk*.



Send your story to beanstalk@mediacorp.com.sg with your name and contact details.

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