



Grandparenting From the Birth To Three Perspective (Birth To Three staff talk about being a grandparent)

Anita Huffman:

My perspective of the world has changed drastically since becoming a grandmother. My granddaughters have given me many gifts that keep me young and alive and help me rediscover the universe in a whole different way. Here are a few of my new discoveries:

Snails make good pets.
New shoes do make you run faster.
Sister's piece is always bigger.
An unclenched helium balloon is a hard life lesson.
“Maybe” means yes, “no” means try harder.
Holding a flowing hose makes you braver.
Dogs are just small horses.
Unpainted toe nails are like a train wreck, it must be stopped.
Mustard mixed with ketchup is poopy brown.
Red lipstick does make one more beautiful.
Mud washes off.
Glitter makes everything better.
M and Ms do melt in your hand and pant pockets.
Hair grows back.
Macaroni and cheese is comfort food.
Peas are gross.
Puddles are for jumping in.
Princesses and Smurfs can live together in a Lincoln Log house.
Green eggs and ham does taste better.
Goggles, swimsuits and bubble bath are a vacation.
Flashlights are the most versatile toys.
Knock-knock jokes are funny.
Ice cream is not always for dessert.
Pink cowboy boots can be used for tap dancing.
Fairies do exist.
Reading books over and over again does connect one's brain synapses.
Singing in the car with grandkids and Lady Gaga with the windows rolled up is as good as an Eagles concert.
And most importantly, daughters do grow up to be wonderful mothers.

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Claire Davis:

Grandparenting is one of the many things that make parenting worth while!

Connie Rose:

When my grandkids come to stay the night with me, they love the routines we have set up in our home for them. They look forward to reading and singing each night, and the cuddling and tucking in. What I've learned as a grandmother is my grandkids were raised without set bedtimes and they seem more tired, their mom is more stressed and the lack of routine is evident in other aspects of their lives.

I was a very young mom and knew that when I was rested, I had more patience and had better reactions to situations. So, I determined early on that we would ALL have set bedtimes, especially when the kids started preschool. This worked out well for us as the kids had their nighttime routines from the start. They were fun and we all looked forward to them. I then had my "Mommy" time when my kids were down for the night, usually without a fight. Each summer we negotiated their new bedtime for the fall. This was a growing time for them which taught them many skills.