

Little pig is sad, he misses attention





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Child's language for expressing emotions is not words but is rather nonverbal and most often expressed through the child's play and behaviour. Likewise, a child often behaves in one way, for example, shows jealously and stubbornness, but behind this behaviour is completely different emotion of sadness.

Sadness is one of the so-called basic emotions. They appear in all cultures and from the earliest age. By the end of the 6th month of life, a child expresses all four basic emotions (anger, fear, happiness, sadness). The most important thing in life for a child is to see a positive reflection of their value in the words and behaviour of their parents, to receive parental attention, time and fulfilment of needs. However, as children grow up, parents also have certain expectations of them, teaching children responsibility and acceptable behaviours which are rewarded with praise and attention. Likewise, unacceptable behaviours and irresponsibility are often punished by withholding attention, praise or rewards. It's precisely this deprivation that causes sadness in the child, that is, a feeling of rejection and non-acceptance. If there are more than one child in the family, an individual child will often complain that the attention he should have received is going to one of his siblings, so at first glance this may seem like jealousy of siblings.

This picture book contains a therapeutic story about a piglet who failed to meet his parents' expectations while his younger brother succeeded. At first, it seemed that the piglet was just jealous of his brother, but in fact he was sad because he missed out on praise and attention.

The story will help your child recognize and name the emotion of sadness that they're feeling.

At the end of the picture book, there are tips for adults that will help you understand your child's emotional needs so you can provide help and comfort.

Your soothing voice, attention and the closeness you establish with the child you are reading to, is a big step on the path to healthy development of your little one.

Uživajte u tim zajedničkim trenucima.

99

Hi! I'm a little pig and I live with my mum, dad and younger brother.

I don't have my own room yet, but I share a lot of toys with my brother, so we play all day and make a big mess out of our room. I like to play, but I don't really like to clean up my toys. Once my mom and dad got very angry with me because I didn't clean up my toys. I wasn't sad because theywere angry, but because they kept praising my brother, and I felt kind of alone and rejected.

Make yourself comfy and listen to my story...



Younger brother started to collect toys right away and put them on shelves. He made this assignment fun for himself and started to sing his favourite song.

Older brother also started to clean his part of the room, but then he saw a little train. He hasn't been playing with this train for some time. Piglet was interested if the toy is still working. He took some rails and tried to make the train work. This was very interesting to him!

- I'm done! - piglet heard the happy voice of his younger brother, who had managed to clean up his part of the room. Then he looked around and saw many toys on his side that he still didn't put away. And he also couldn't start a train.

Soon mum and dad came to their room with guests: donkey, duck and kitten. Everyone was delighted to congratulate the younger brother:

This part of the room looks so nice and clean. Did you clean this up little piglet? You did such a good job!
 And you were so fast. You have put everything to place where it belongs.

Older brother piglet knew they were right. He looked, sighed and mumbled quietly:

 He didn't put everything to place where it should be. The ball doesn't belong there...

Mum heard him and got angry:

- How can you complain? You didn't do anything!
- Your part of the room is still a mess, and your little brother was trying really
 hard to clean up his part of the room dad was also a little bit angry.