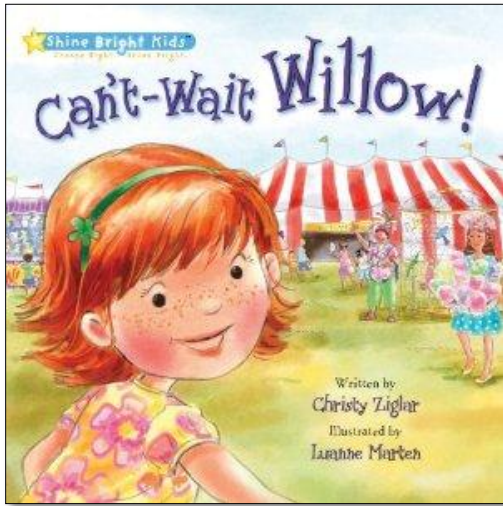


***Can't-Wait Willow!* (NEW from Shine Bright Kids and Ideals Books) Teaches the Importance of Learning Patience and Making the Best Choices!**



Can't-Wait Willow! tells the story of Willow and her adventure to the much-anticipated circus. Willow just can't say 'no' to tempting treats and fun along the way and runs out of time and money to miss the show. Luckily she is given a second chance and the invaluable advice that sometimes you need to say 'no' to good things in order to end up with the best. For more information and additional parenting resources, games and free reward charts, visit <http://www.ShineBrightKids.com>.

The Shine Bright Kids stories provide parents with a relevant context to have meaningful conversations about making good choices, life skills, values and character. The principles explored include setting goals, prioritizing, using good judgment, taking responsibility, demonstrating perseverance, self control and having a positive attitude.

“Sometimes you need to say ‘no.’ It can be better to wait. Save ‘yes’ for the super amazing and end up with the truly great!”

Note from Author, Christy Ziglar

In the words of my uncle, legendary motivator, **Zig Ziglar**, **“The chief cause of failure and unhappiness is trading what you want the most for what you want now.”** In our hectic, instant-gratification world, how often do we take the time to talk with our children about what is most important? If we don't have a clear direction for where our lives are going and what our priorities are, like Willow, we can easily become distracted and taken off-course. We may end up settling for 'good enough' instead of making the extra effort to achieve 'GREAT!' Look for teachable moments in everyday life and help your children learn to make the choices that will allow them to reach their true potential and shine their very brightest!

Bringing It Home

1. **Create a Family Mission Statement** - Consider developing your own Family Mission Statement, a one to two sentence vision that describes what your family is all about, e.g., “our home will be a place of love, honesty, respect and laughter,” or “we will view each day as a new adventure and look for ways to love others while always doing our best.” It's a fantastic way to come together and make sure that each family member has a clear understanding of the core values that your family holds most dear.
2. **Set Goals Together** - Talk about your dreams and what's most important as a family. Set some specific goals and write them down. Some can be fun and some can be serious. Some can be for the next day and some might take weeks or months to achieve. The younger your children are in age, keep goals short-term (for today or by the end of the week). As your children mature, help them begin to think farther into the future and set goals that are weeks, months and even years ahead. Review them frequently (consider making a Shine Bright Star Chart) and don't forget to celebrate when a milestone is reached!
3. **Talk About Everyday Choices** - Life is all about the choices we make and every decision has a future consequence. Consider taking a few moments at bed time or first thing in the morning to talk about the day ahead. Review activities and make a list of responsibilities, then help prioritize them. Plan your family's schedule around the activities and people that are consistent with your values and goals.