Written by Nadine Bubeck



Today I looked at my first born, and for the first time, he didn't look like a baby—rather, a kid. He just seemed so big. Where did my baby go? My son was growing up rapidly and beautifully, but I couldn't help but feel a pit in my stomach knowing the passing of time was out of my control.

And overnight my second son has turned into a turbo crawler. He's become tenacious in moving around the house, pulling himself up, and playing with every single solitary toy in sight. My sweet little one is blossoming before my eyes, and while I rejoice in his growth, my heart sinks a little knowing those newborn years now rest in the past.

As Thanksgiving approaches, I could go on and on about why I am thankful to be a mom; but instead, I am going to reflect on what my boys have taught me, as I am extremely grateful for the lessons I have learned (and continue to learn) since becoming a mother.

1. Patience

This is obvious for every parent—kids take patience. I strive to keep my cool 99% of the time, remembering my children are babies and are learning things for the first time. Granted, I cringe every time my toddler throws all his food on the floor, takes forever to clean his toys, refuses to nap, and won't go to sleep at night, but I've embraced being calm. I don't want to be a yelling, nasty mom—it's my job to love and train my children.

I am grateful to provide my kids with a peaceful environment.

2. Priorities

I've learned the true meaning of priorities—that's for sure. Things that once meant the world to me don't seem as important anymore. I've morphed into a proud and blessed WAHM and wouldn't have it any other way. I'd rather toast wine to my son's apple juice than party at a bar. I take 30-second showers and sport yoga clothes because my getting ready alone time has since diminished (and I don't do yoga). I've endured many sleepless nights rocking my baby, knowing he sleeps better in my arms. Once admittedly kind of selfish, I've learned to be selfless when it comes to loving and tending to my children. They come first.

I am grateful I have gained perspective.

3. Affection

I've always been rather affectionate, but my children have taught me I hold a magic power: a mother's touch. There's nothing like hugging my children, and having them hug me back. Their snuggles are priceless. I love holding my toddler's hand on our daily walks, and my baby holds my hand when he nurses.

I am grateful to be their rock.

4. My child within

I suck at singing, but I sing to my kids every day. I'm not the best dancer, but dancing is part of our daily routine. I was a little intimidated by becoming a boy mom, but it turns out, I'm damn good at building Lego towers. It's really fun being a mom—having children has given me the opportunity to re-experience childhood. I'll sing in public and get goofy just to get a good laugh from my kids. They've reinstilled in me a sense of innocence.

I am grateful to reconnect with my inner child.

5. Resilience

I've always had a determined persona, but my children have taught me a different degree of resilience. My toddler is a thoughtful thinker and loves to decipher how things work. He is persistent in helping me do everything: the laundry, unload the dishwasher, clean, etc—his sense of "I can do this" amazes me. And then there's my little one—my baby who is just starting to crawl. There is no stopping this little guy; he'll mow anyone down who gets in his way.

I am grateful to witness such dedication among my children.

6. Brotherly love

Mom's Moment: Why I'm Thankful

Written by Nadine Bubeck

Yes, my toddler tortures his little brother. He pulls his hair, pushes him down, and takes toys out of his hands... and in response, my baby giggles with glee. MOST OF THE TIME, my boys play nice together. They hug one another. Laugh with one another. Babble among each other. Hug, kiss, and snuggle one another. There is nothing better than watching your children bond, and it's a constant reminder that family is so very important.

I am grateful my boys have given me a newfound sense of family.

7. Unconditional love

You knew this was coming. Never before did I know a love like this was possible. I pray every night my children will lead happy, safe, and healthy lives—there's nothing I want more. My boys have given me purpose—they are forgiving and kind little souls. My love for them is so deep, so pure, and so real. I now it's possible to love something so much, it actually hurts.

I am grateful I have been given the gift of true love.

Photo credit: Marisa Belle Photography

About Nadine

Nadine Bubeck is a multi-media personality, author, blogger, PR pro, speaker, and blessed boy mom. The TV News anchor turned all things mama contributes to numerous publications and is often utilized on TV as a parenting expert. Her niche: everything mom, baby, toddler, child, and family. She is the founder and owner of All Things Mama Media, LLC, the parent company for All Things Mama TV, BoyMamas.com, and more.

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