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Potty Training can be a JOY, and NOT a CHORE - IF YOU MAKE IT A GAME!

This worked for my 7 kids: Make a ladder like the one to the right, (from adding machine paper, etc. or print this out), and tape it on the wall right near the potty. Choose an inexpensive prize to buy that you know your child will enjoy (a small toy from the 99 cent store, a lollipop, a candy, etc.) plus a pack of small stickers in advance (and HIDE IT!). Draw or paste a picture of the prize in the square above the ladder. Tell them that each time they go potty in the RIGHT PLACE (on the pot) they will get a sticker, starting at the bottom of the ladder- and when he gets to the top, he will win the prize! (If the prize is candy - DO NOT give him ANY Candy AT ANY OTHER TIMES UNTIL HE HAS EARNED IT or the prize will lose its value! Many kids enjoy placing their earned sticker on their chart by themselves - if you show them where it goes. That in itself will be a temporary satisfaction for their good behavior until they have earned their 'big' prize on top. If he or she has an accident outside the bathroom, instead of scolding, just say sympathetically, "I'm sorry, I can't give you a sticker this time. But next time, when you do it on the potty, I can give you a sticker!" Make another chart after they complete the chart and win the prize, and before long it will be a habit, even without the prize!

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