

FAMILY REUNION INSTITUTE'S

STICKY REUNION SITUATION

WHAT CAN A TODDLER DO?

September 2022

The Situation:

My niece likes working with family toddlers and preschoolers at the reunion. For our next reunion she wants to include them in our Friday night program, but realistically what can they do at that age?

The Fix:



Bill Vargus

WHAT CAN THEY DO? For one thing, charm the heck out of the entire group! For another, make their parents and grandparents extremely proud. For a third, make themselves feel great as they experience a sense of accomplishment. Then there's also the benefit to them of getting experience speaking in front of a group, and even more importantly, realizing that this particular group is comprised of people who share their blood and love them. And if you're worried about them messing up, don't. Because as I just stated--these are people who share their blood and love them. It's the most supportive audience you could possibly ask for. You'll make sure not to give them anything too difficult, but even if they have a few lapses, everyone is going to come up to them and encourage and praise them. And, hopefully, it will spur them to want to continue to participate and be part of the reunion for the rest of their lives.

The Fix:



Doug Harris

Realistically, toddlers and pre-schoolers can do a lot for any reunion--by their very presence. They not only embody the future of the family, they're just plain cute! Since your niece enjoys working with them, there is a good chance she can create a memorable moment (or moments) by teaching them a song, a dance, a poem, or have a fashion show with them wearing their favorite summertime outfit. People who work with children develop a second sense of what they're capable of at their various ages. Adults will be entertained, and the kids will have a positive memory of their family reunion experience. Let it be. Let the kids be cute. It won't last long. Enjoy.
