



## **Procedures at Home**

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Lena Nuccio was having problems with her two kids leaving clothes all over the floor. Read how she solved this problem in the **Going Beyond** folder for Chapter 15 or scan the QR Code in the book.

**Lena Nuccio** is a professor at the University of New Orleans. She teaches the classroom management course. She shared the following “Procedures” story with us.

*As mothers, we sometimes get into the habit of picking up for our children, because it is faster to do it ourselves!*

*I have a procedure of throwing downstairs dirty clothes that the children take off, and placing them next to the garage door, because the washer and dryer are in the garage.*

*I also have a basket at the bottom of the stairs where I throw things that need to go upstairs.*

*My two children, Joseph and Lorraine, would come home and start taking off their socks and shoes and leaving them where they landed. I would come in after them, throw the socks next to the garage door, and put the shoes in the basket to go upstairs.*

*Well, I was listening to one of your tapes for the one hundredth time—the one on procedures. It was all stuff that I teach! But, I had not incorporated this at home with Joseph and Lorraine.*

*So, when they came home from school the next day, I taught them the procedure.*

- *They are to take their shoes off and put them in the basket at the bottom of the stairs.*
- *Then, they take off their socks, unfold the cuffs, and put them in the pile by the garage door.*

*They immediately did it, and I was very proud. Of course, once or twice that first week, I had to stop and look down at the socks and shoes and say, “And what’s the procedure, please?” They would then quickly do the procedure.*

*This was so much better than picking up after them and fussing all the time.*

*But, the best was yet to come. The following week, when they came home, they went straight to get a snack and watch a little TV, while I worked in my home office. Joseph came running into the room holding an uncuffed sock and exclaimed, “Mommy, Lorraine forgot the procedure!”*

*I laughed so hard! After I stopped, I asked him if he could go remind her about the correct procedure.*

***Parenting is so much easier now!***