



The Adventures of Bentley Hippo: Inspiring Children to be Patient

Argyro Graphy

bentleythehippo.com

Introducing. the new "Kindness to All" Advocate



Dedication

This story is dedicated to everyone who can't sit still. Being patient is not easy, but it is very important. The 'right thing is not always easy.' Being patient:

• reduces the chances of worrying about things, • it helps with your physical and mental wellbeing and • is a way to practice kindness, which makes you feel good too Let's join Bentley on this adventure as he teaches Jaxon our little monkey with ADHD all about being patient.



Patience is not simply the ability to wait - it's how we behave while we're waiting." – Joyce Meyer

It was morning. There was a loud knock at the front door. Peeking through the peephole, Bentley saw Jaxon pacing back and forth. Bentley opened the door.

Jaxon was so excited he couldn't speak clearly. All Bentley could make out was 'ride', 'hurry', and 'long line-up'.

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Scratching his head, Bentley figured it was easier to go see what the fuss was about than trying to ask Jaxon to repeat his words. They followed the big arrows that took them down a long path and onto an open field.

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It was very busy with people walking around eating ice cream, lots of different noises and big line-ups... They walked to the open field. There was a huge line-up and Bentley saw Daisy the Giraffe, Toby the Elephant, and Marty the Lion near the back of the line.

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"What's going on?" asked Bentley. "There was an announcement - for today only, the blue rocket will be lifting off, and it is supposed to be the ride of a lifetime," Marty explained. Jaxon's eyes widened. "That's what I was telling you earlier," he said to Bentley.

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Bentley thought for a moment. Hmmm, the ride of a lifetime? This has to be the reason so many children are lined up; and where did they get the ice cream cones from? Bentley, Jaxon, and Daisy waited in line as Marty and Toby headed over to grab some ice cream cones for everyone.

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They returned and joined the others. A few minutes passed and Jaxon grew impatient. He ran to the front of the line and tried to sneak in. He was sent back. He couldn't standstill. He tried a second time and again was sent to the back.

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Jumping up and down, trying to catch a glimpse of the front, he became frustrated. With every jump, he stomped harder and louder.

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At one point, the ground shook so much that everyone's ice cream fell to the ground. Sad faces looked at Jaxon, but he was too frustrated to notice. He was still trying to find a way to get to the front.

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Bentley wasn't happy with Jaxon's behavior and because he had lost his ice cream. If there is one thing that can make a happy hippo unhappy, it's taking away his ice cream! "I'm so excited!" Jaxon cried, "Bentley, Bentley stop frowning! It's going

"Stop it!" Bentley told him, "Just stand still!" "But I'm excited!" Jaxon argued. "We all are, but we aren't jumping around and trying to push in!"

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to be so much fun!"

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Just then the ticket agent walked over and warned them to settle down or they wouldn't be allowed on the ride.

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Jaxon heaved a big sigh, and the ticket agent returned to the front. Bentley knew that Jaxon sometimes got excited and struggled to stand still and his actions weren't intentional. Bentley didn't want to miss out on the trip though. He took a deep breath; he would have to practice being patient too.



"Jaxon, it's unfair to try to jump in front of the line," Bentley began to explain. "I know," he replied.

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"And jumping up and down affected others around you. Then you started arguing, which is not cool, especially as you know it's important to be kind to others. You need to be patient."

Bentley could see Jaxon did appear to be sorry, but he wasn't sure what being patient meant.

"Being patient is when you have to remain calm even when you're excited. When you are feeling impatient there are things you can do to help. Like directing your attention to others and talking to them – you like talking!

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Or you can play a game like 'I spy' or take deep breaths to calm down or how about this? Look at the clouds, can you see what shapes they are?" Everyone looked up, and called out the shapes they could see in the clouds. "Circle!" "Triangle!" Bentley told everyone about how much he loved space, and before they knew it, they were at the front of the line! "I see you all behaved as I asked you to," said the ticket agent. Jaxon quickly nodded, and the agent handed them tickets.



They looked at their tickets, then each other, then the tickets again with huge grins on their faces. "Follow me," said the agent.

They were led around the corner. There it was. The big blue rocket.

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Only it wasn't a rocket at all...

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They were confused. "Where's the blue rocket?" Jaxon asked.



The ticket agent pointed to the sign that read

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FLY HIGH

UE ROCKET

Bentley's friends looked at him, they knew he must be disappointed as this didn't look like it was going to be the trip to the moon. This was a giant hot air balloon.

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Bentley shrugged, looked at Marty and then the excited Jaxon, and said, "Well, it's not a rocket ship but it is really cool, let's get on and go for a ride."

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Jaxon stepped forward, looked over at the others, then asked, "Who wants to get on first?" Once they were all in, the balloon lifted off heading high into the sky. Everyone had a wonderful time, they looked down at the children below; they looked like tiny dots.

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"This ride is awesome," said Toby.

Bentley smiled at his friends. "This isn't what I expected, but today Jaxon learned about being patient, and if he hadn't knocked on my door, we would never have come up this high.

It's the highest I have ever been, the closest I've been to space and I am happy you're all here with me." They looked at Jaxon who was in his own space reaching out trying to grab some clouds. They all laughed, including Jaxon.



Another wonderful and important lesson taught by Bentley. There are so many things you can do to practice patience. Here are some examples and then see if you can come up with a few more

- color or draw a picture
- play with your toys or with your friends
- tell jokes
- write down all the things you are grateful for
- read a book

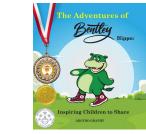
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Also, be sure to join our email list to find out more about this bubbly little hippo - Bentley.

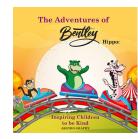
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Note: ADHD consists of mild to severe symptoms and varies with each individual. The character in this story Jaxon the monkey, is a representation: and not limited to one or all persons with ADHD

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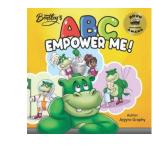
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See You in Our Mext Adventure

A loud knock at the front door startles Bentley. Who could it be?

It's Jaxon, rambling on not making any sense. Racing ahead pointing in the distance. Bentley follows this silly monkey. A large crowd has gathered making it impossible for Jaxon to see what the fuss is all about. Sprinting to the front of the line, Jaxon is stopped and directed to the back of the line by the ticket agent. Frustrated, Jaxon looks around, waiting for the right moment. Determined ,he makes a mad dash. Bentley has his hands full with this hyperactive monkey, that just won't sit still. An entertaining and educational story teaching all about 'patience'.

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