

They rather enjoy this exercise which trains them to be like grown up scholars.

If you forbid whispering, a few conscientious pupils will obey the rule. The majority of the class will probably whisper if they get the chance, always with a guilty feeling, which soon tells for evil on the character. The same children have been accustomed to talk all day long at home, with perfect freedom, then what a task it must be for them to sit for even half an hour with their lips closed.

Those who forbid all talking surely do not realize the hardship it is to obey that rule, nor the lonely, isolated feeling it gives one not to be able to communicate with one's neighbor.

Go slowly at first with little children, and try to remember how hard it is for them to learn, and how often a thing must be repeated before they remember it. Better spend two days at the beginning on one word, than be compelled to teach that word over again at the end of the term.

In all your work be patient and hopeful. Try to see things in their proper light, not in the school-room light, as we often do.

The slamming of a slate, the noise of whispering are annoyances, they are not crimes. A child is not necessarily *bad* because he does these things. He should not be looked at or spoken to as if he had committed a grave offence. Do not take all the pleasure out of a child's school life by treating him as if he were your natural enemy.

Be sympathetic with the little folk. If one of them tells you his grandma has a cat, at least *look* as if you felt an interest in that fact.