

The Ten Commandments
or
**If You Are Going To Work With Children And Animals*, Here
Are Some Things You Should Know**
by Dave Benson Phillips

1. When meeting the child or children for the first time, take time to learn their names.
2. Make sure the children's parent or guardian is not-too-far from the set.
3. Make sure that the film crew are nice to the children and refrain from using bad f*****g language.
4. Take time to find out what the child is like by talking to them before the filming starts...

If they are:

Shy - do not pressure them too much, let them get used to the surroundings.

Nervous - assure them that they are going to have a great time and tell them exactly what is going on and have their parent or guardian close by to offer support.

Confident - don't worry too much, just keep an eye on their behaviour.

5. Without being cold and condescending show the children you are in charge.
6. Take time to explain to the children exactly what they have to do.
7. Don't be afraid to ask the children if they need to go to the bathroom .chances are they will be too afraid to ask you!
8. Practise the piece you are about to film a few times and save the performance for the 'real thing'.
9. Children tend to be really good in the first two takes, three is pushing it... more than three and the children will get bored.
10. Between takes, take the children away from the set to relax in a room with their parents and guardians, have some art stuff and games in there to keep them amused.

...stick to these guidelines and your childrens film-shoot should be fun!

Good luck!



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* When working with animals... there are no rules!