

One of the best ways for teaching honesty to kids is to create a truthful home. Consider how often you distort the truth: "Tell them I'm not here" is the way you get rid of a phone pest. You rationalize that this isn't really a lie, or perhaps it is only a "white lie," which, as opposed to a black lie, is really all right because it gets you out of an embarrassing situation. If your child sees your life littered with little white lies, he learns that this is an acceptable way to avoid consequences. You've just lied to him, and he'll know that, since he knows you so well.