



# How To Tone Down Bedtime Revolution

When youngsters politely, or impolitely, refuse to go to bed, the problem may be more than just perversity. After all, it's the least exciting thing they've done all day.

You can add a little more interest and less resistance to the younger set's bedtime with more exciting room decor and furniture, matching the occupant's personality.

What young seaman or pirate wouldn't jolly well like to "come aboard" a nautical bunk bed via a pegged ladder. Or one with 1x4-inch board steps, holes drilled in each end, supported by ropes through the holes and knotted below.

Or a young cowboy could swing out of the saddle and into his bunk made of knotty western pine boards, embellished with cattle brands.

Another variation is to use a regular board and rung ladder for bunk bed access, and another two or three ladders as supports for a set of shelves and a desk along the wall. Position the ladders an appropriate distance apart and place 1x10 or 1x12-inch boards across rungs for shelves and desk.

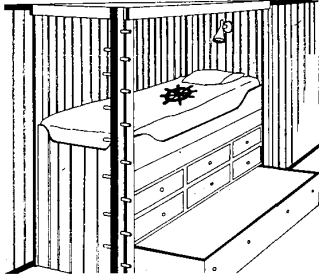
This system allows changing the height of the shelves and desk as youngsters grow from a primping, thus beneficial.

A young sailor's or cowboy's mother enjoys bunks, too, because they're easy to keep trim.

A number of variations are possible—double bunks, an upper bunk built over sets of drawers, or an upper bunk with drawers in between and a pull-out bunk below for brother or a guest.

Bunk units can be built to the floor, eliminating a dust-catching space, or hung from the wall high enough so a vacuum easily goes underneath.

THE BUNK bed-chest of drawers combination is easily constructed of western lumber. Drawers are of 1x8 or 1x10-inch Douglas fir, and a ladder may be made of a 4x4-inch post with 1 1/2-inch dowels set-in alternately for steps.



IF BEDTIME is a bad time for youngsters, add interest to rooms, matching activities and personalities. Sailor-inspired bunk bed-dresser uses western pine, 1x8 or 1x10-inch boards for drawers, 2x4-inch Douglas fir for upright framing, 4x4-inch post and 1 1/2-inch dowels for ladder, 1x4 tongue-groove paneling on walls.

## Seedlings Available

Orders for pine tree seedlings are being taken by the Oakland County Soil Conservation District, according to James Reid, chairman of the District.

Order blanks may be obtained at the new SCD Office located at 4515 Highland Road (M-59), Pontiac; The Cooperative Extension Service Office, 1075 North Telegraph Road, Pontiac.

The trees will be available sometime between April 1 and April 15, Reid said. Those who order trees will be notified of the time and place to pick them up.



### The Green Thumb

By GEORGE ABRAHAM

**Poinsettia care:** They're making poinsettias so they'll last longer.

In fact, some of the white and pink varieties will put on a show way into August, given a little care. Even the red varieties are better than they used to be.

For best mileage from poinsettias, the secret is to keep them in a cool room at night. During the day they like a room temperature of 65 to 70, and at night you can move them to 55 to 60 degrees for a longer life.

This plant takes plenty of light. Too little light or too high a room temperature will cause the leaves to turn yellow and drop.

"Dropping of leaves is also caused by excess water (as well as dry soil) and drafts. Sometimes poinsettias have to be watered two or three times a day in the home. Avoid a soggy soil.

The pink variety is a mutation developed from a red variety. It is not a dyed plant. All varieties take the same care. No reason why you can't make yours bloom again.

When the plant begins to fade, dry the soil gradually and place the potted plant in a dark, cool cellar where the temperature will go around 50 degrees F or lower. Then in April or May, cut the plant back to about 5 or 6 inches, and start new plants from the tops.

**CUCUMBER NOTES:** I've been asked for the name of the best cucumber for the home garden. There are a lot of good varieties and I suggest you look over the seed catalog.

You might try some of the "all-female" hybrids, called Gynoecious ("gin-ee-shus"). These hybrids have nearly 100% female flowers and bear earlier (and heavier) than the standard cukes. Seedsmen blend a small amount of seed of the standard varieties with the gynoecious seed for pollination.

Or you can try a few "non-all-female" types such as Challenger, an outstanding early hybrid for slicing. Salvo is another good one. If cukes make you burp, try the Burpless No. 26, a Japanese hybrid growing 10 inches long.

Many home gardeners tell us that you should never peel a cucumber because the peeling contains magnesium—a factor that will properly help your digestive system digest a cucumber.

So, if cucumbers have "talked back" to you, try eating them without peeling. DO NOT PEEL CUCUMBERS, but eat the skins and all! No more burping if you do!

**FREE:** Send me a self-addressed, stamped envelope and ask for a copy of my bulletin, "How to Grow Poinsettias, Gardenias and Camellias." No reason why you can't raise all three beauties in your own home. Just follow the tips in my guide. No postal cards, please.

**GREEN THUMB CLINIC:** A reader writes: "Squirrels have been eating the tips of our evergreens. Will this harm the trees?"

Answer: No. The tips are sweet to them. Cutting the tips

**Longevity**

Twenty-three appointments have been made by the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority Board of Commissioners since 1941, however, only 22 persons have served. This is because Thomas S. Welsh, Macomb County's representative on the board, was first an appointee of then Gov. John B. Swainson. Welsh has served continuously since 1961.

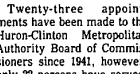


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