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Toddlers Can Be “Super Helpers” During Errand Time with the Tenth Book in the Award-Winning Toddler Tools™ Series

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Minneapolis, MN—Free Spirit Publishing presents **ON-THE-GO TIME** (\$7.95), the tenth book in the award-winning Toddler Tools series of board books by author Elizabeth Verdick and illustrator Marieka Heinlen. With **ON-THE-GO TIME**, shopping and errands really *can* mean fewer hassles and more fun for everyone. Toddlers learn simple tools and encouragement to keep moving, cope with the changing scenes, and be super helpers in the car, at the store or library, and on the road.

Toddlers are the ultimate multitaskers, moving in several directions at once as they play, experiment, explore, and learn. When it's time to stop for necessary daily routines, like heading out on errands, putting away toys, saying good-bye, listening, sleeping, or eating, it can be hard for toddlers to break stride and focus. The Toddler Tools series offers a fresh look at the times and transitions all toddlers face daily, giving young children coping skills to ease transition times and handle everyday routines with confidence and cooperation.

Playful, friendly, and encouraging, **ON-THE-GO TIME**, **MEALTIME**, **BEDTIME**, **CALM-DOWN TIME**, **MANNERS TIME**, **SHARING TIME**, **NAPTIME**, **LISTENING TIME**, **BYE-BYE TIME**, and **CLEAN-UP TIME** (Free Spirit Publishing, \$7.95 each) give toddlers the tools they need to grow and learn in a positive, nurturing environment. Heinlen's signature illustrations—vibrant color interwoven with vintage fabrics and whimsical touches—are the perfect complement to Verdick's rhythmic text.

Each book also contains a section of helpful tips for parents and caregivers. Here are few tips from **ON-THE-GO TIME** to keep toddlers moving:

- **Keep to a schedule.** Make it easier on everyone by running errands or scheduling appointments in between your child's meals and naps. This will ensure your child is rested, fed, and ready to go. Don't try to cram too many stops into one trip—this often leads to frustration, tears, or meltdowns.
- **Make a “go-time” list.** Your child will do a lot better on-the-go if you've made a visual schedule ahead of time. On a piece of paper, draw a representation of each place you'll be going: a book for the library, an apple for the grocery store, a stamp for the post office. Then your child will know what to expect and look forward to.
- **Get ready, get set.** Before you leave home, give your child a chance to use the bathroom, get a drink and snack to take along, and choose a favorite toy to bring. Make sure you always have a handy stash of diapers and wipes, underpants and extra clothes, raingear, juice boxes, small toys, and other essential “go-time” supplies. It's helpful if your child eats beforehand or brings along a snack—especially if you're running several errands. Full tummies mean calmer children!

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TODDLER TOOLS™ SERIES

by Elizabeth Verdick.

illustrated by
Marieka Heinlen



The Toddler Tools™ Series Features These Board Books:

BEDTIME
ISBN 978-1-57542-315-9

BYE-BYE TIME
ISBN 978-1-57542-299-2

CALM-DOWN TIME
ISBN 978-1-57542-316-6

CLEAN-UP TIME
ISBN 978-1-57542-298-5

LISTENING TIME
ISBN 978-1-57542-301-2

MANNERS TIME
ISBN 978-1-57542-313-5

MEALTIME
ISBN 978-1-57542-366-1

NAPTIME
ISBN 978-1-57542-300-5

ON-THE-GO TIME
ISBN 978-1-57542-379-1

SHARING TIME
ISBN 978-1-57542-314-2

● \$7.95 ● board book ● 24 pp. ● color illust. ● 7" x 7" ● for toddlers

Author Elizabeth Verdick, Illustrator Marieka Heinlen



About the Author

Elizabeth Verdick is the author of more than 30 highly acclaimed books for children and teenagers, including books in the Toddler Tools series, the Best Behavior™ series for young children, and the Laugh & Learn™ series for preteens. Her most recent titles include *Don't Behave Like You Live in a Cave* and a bilingual version of *Germes Are Not for Sharing / Los gérmenes no son para compartir*. Elizabeth lives with her husband, daughter, son, and five pets near St. Paul, Minnesota.



About the Illustrator

Marieka Heinlen received her BFA at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and also studied at Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design in London. She launched her career as an award-winning children's book illustrator with the best-selling *Hands Are Not for Hitting*, part of the Best Behavior series. As a freelance illustrator and designer, Marieka focuses her work on books and other materials for children, teens, parents, and teachers. She lives in St. Paul, Minnesota, with her husband and two children.



About Free Spirit Publishing (www.freespirit.com)

Meeting kids' social, emotional, and educational needs since 1983

Headquartered in Minneapolis, Minnesota, Free Spirit is the leading publisher of learning tools that support young people's social-emotional health and their educational needs. Free Spirit's mission is to help children and teens think for themselves, succeed in life, and make a difference in the world.