

"Really well," answered Susan as she passed the potatoes to Donna, who sat on her left. "We learned what kind of foods rabbits eat. Then we drew pictures of the foods."

"We have carrots for supper tonight," remarked Timothy. "That's one thing rabbits like."

"I do not think that rabbits chew them quietly like we should. I hope you children remember to keep your mouth closed when you eat," reminded Mother.

Quickly Donna closed her mouth, for she had been crunching on a carrot stick and listening to the rest talk. Carrots were such a noisy food! Swallowing the chewed-up carrot, she took a drink of water before

saying, "I'll soon be going to school, too. I can hardly wait to learn to read by myself. Then I'll be able to learn about what animals like to eat."

"I know that I am glad I learned to read," put in Stephen. "There surely are a lot of things to learn."

"Especially about God," added Father. "We have so much more to learn about Him. You children keep on studying and learning your lessons well so that you will be able to understand God's Word."

As soon as everyone had finished eating, Susan asked, "Excuse me, please?"

"Certainly," answered Father.

Soon each child had been excused to finish his evening duties and homework.

The family in the story above always tried to remember to be mannerly. They knew that this was one way of showing love to each other. Below are some manners which this family practiced.

1. Wash your hands and face and comb your hair before going to the table.
2. When praying, fold your hands, close your eyes, and bow your head.
3. Pause a moment after prayer.
4. Sit up straight on your chair.
5. Chew your food quietly with your mouth closed.
6. Do not drink with food in your mouth.
7. Pass the food to your left.
8. Say "Excuse me" before leaving the table.

Read the story again. As you are reading, find and underline the sentences or parts of sentences which show how the manners in the box were practiced. As you practice these manners, you will be helping your family to be a mannerly family, too.