Pointers For Parents

Teaching Your Child Good Grooming Habits

(NAPSA)—As every parent knows, most kids have thought of a thousand excuses to avoid taking care of their hair. Sometimes the mere glimpse of a hair brush or a bath can cause the most angelic child to throw a tantrum. To help, the beauty experts at L'Oréal offer tips to turn what is often looked upon as a major ordeal into a fun experience with stylish results.

• Think safety first. Use a nonslip mat in the bathtub to prevent falls. Use a special cover for faucets that can get very hot and keep water temperature at a safe level. Never leave a child alone in a bath—not even for a minute.

• Have a proper shampooing routine. Remember that kids' hair has different needs. It may feel and look finer, which makes it more susceptible to getting knots—a major complaint among kids and parents. Try a shampoo and conditoner specifically formulated for smoothness to help keep hair tangle-free and make hair smooth and shiny. L'Oréal Kids' new Blueberry or Orange-Mango scented Smoothie Shampoos do the trick and smell great.

• Make bath time fun by having a basket of bath toys handy. They don't have to be fancy, a straw can be used to blow bubbles and a simple plastic bowl can make for lots of pouring fun.

• For tear-free haircuts, ask your child what kind of cut they would like and, within reason, work out a compromise. Children should experience their first haircut by age three so they begin to



understand that trims are part of good grooming habits.

• A great look for girls with straight, fine hair is a blunt cut at chin length or just to the shoulders. Curly-locked young ladies look especially pretty with soft shaping or layer effects that gently diffuse their ringlets. Let her pick out inexpensive barrettes or headbands to add some sparkly accents.

• Experiment with new looks. To give boys a fresh, updated style, use a dollop of styling gel to create a fun, spiky look or try parting the hair on a different side for a change of pace.

• Add a fun new twist to a tried and true style. Instead of the same old ponytail your daughter has worn for years, set the ends with two hot rollers to add bounce and curl.

With these grooming tips, not only will you make styling time fun with your kids—they can look their best, too.