

## **NARRATOR:**

There's many things having a young family has taught me. From being more responsible and "grown-up" to trying to be more patient and understanding, but these are the seven things that resonate the most.

1. Moustaches are cool and never go out of style, regardless what the internet spruiks or what the latest social media buzz hypes.
2. No matter what you get them for their birthday, inevitably the box is always more fun to play with. Not to mention cake is best eaten by hands, but that's a whole other story.
3. Kids can be anything they want, from artists and wannabe popstars... where maybe they haven't quite found that perfect pitch or volume, to ballerinas & beauticians, doctors & vets to even interior decorators, especially on those walls you just freshly painted.

### **Discover the unexpected.**

4. Kids have a LOT of energy. Whether it's chasing a ball or invariably the cat or dog, to jumping in puddles or painting and singing or running around outside (or in the house), they always do it with such exuberance and passion, even if they aren't very good at it.
5. If it is wet, muddy, dirty, sticky or icky, they will no doubt want to jump in it, touch it, eat it, or all three. And no matter how much you tell them not to jump in it, touch it or eat it, they'll do it anyway.
6. Which leads me to point six. They're messy! From sticky fingerprints on walls and fridges and cupboards, to tramping mud all through the house or bringing in a 'stray' cat or dog they found outside that we simply 'have to keep' and just needs a "wash" in the bathtub. If it's messy, they're in the middle of it. In fact, the messier the better.

### **Celebrate the unforgettable.**

7. But the greatest thing I've learned is that they are full of surprises. They'll surprise you by doing the housework... albeit their way. They'll bring you breakfast in bed, even if the kitchen is a disaster. They'll make you handmade gifts that you're not really sure what it is, or they'll come up to for no reason at all and wrap their arms around you and tell you they love you. Yep, in the end, they are what makes it all worthwhile.

**Life takes you to unexpected places. Love brings you home**