

Kid rugs hit the spot for this home biz

By EVA KILGORE
THE FOUNTAIN VALLEY VIEW

Every parent has likely faced the "time out" question.

What to do when your young son or daughter needs to cool down for a little bit?

Fountain Valley mom Heather Sievers would put her 3-year old son, Hayden, on a little stool when he needed his own time out.

That worked just fine until they remodeled their home, and got new wood floors. Then, the stool turned into a sliding device that made time out a game ... and scratched up the floors.

The teacher-turned-mom had an idea: Time Out Spots, rugs designed to help discipline children ages 18 months and up.

"I went online, visited carpet stores, and made several prototypes before I came up with the perfect Time Out Spots design," Sievers said. "I wanted a soft, non-skid product that was also safe."

Time Out Spots are 27 inches in diameter and are machine washable. "They're similar to a bath mat," said Sievers. "They also have a non-skid back so children can't scoot around the room while they're taking a time out."

Sievers has been in business less than a year, but is already in 40 retail locations, including Bergstroms and the trendy Kitson in Los Angeles.

"Sometimes I put the kids to bed and I'll be up until midnight with my husband work-

ing to make sure my orders are just right," she said.

Hayden is now 4, and has a little brother, Nolan, 18 months. "We keep our own Time Out Spot right in the living room," said Sievers.

"If Hayden needs to use it, he's on it for 4 minutes. "We recommend 1 minute of time out for each year of the child's age," she said.

"When a behavior problem arises, children should be given one warning and then if they don't obey, they should be sent to sit on their Time Out Spot," Sievers said.

Time Out Spots come in pink, and blue, in rectangular and round shapes. "I'm working on designing a special timer to go along with the product. Meanwhile, I continue to substitute teach several times a week in Fountain Valley," she said. "We love this city, and our little Los Vasos area."

Sievers said when her children were born, her family was running out of space. "But liked our house so much we decided to stay right where we were and add on," she said.

"The Time Out Spots have really taken off," said Sievers. "They are perfect for children, but I've even had people tell me they'd buy one for their pet, or their husband," she said.

"They're always a hit gift, well, for the parents, anyway."

Information: www.timeoutspots.com or (714) 856-6889.

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