# Daycare workers reveal the strangest and most unhinged demands from parents amid rising stress



Grace Saylor, a daycare worker, recently sparked widespread attention on TikTok by asking fellow caregivers to share the most bizarre and “unhinged” demands they have received from parents, as reported by Today.com. The video, which has accumulated nearly one million views, saw caregivers from various settings reveal a range of unusual and sometimes perplexing requests made by parents.

Among the shared anecdotes were requests such as a parent asking a caregiver to mix all the child's food with breastmilk despite not providing any, and another parent demanding that the number of string beans their child ate at lunch be counted. One particularly unusual case involved a parent asking the daycare staff to chew the child's food before feeding it to him, citing the child’s digestion problems.

The odd requests continued with a parent wanting to be called during the day with a false report that their child was sick, enabling the parent to leave work early. Another caregiver recalled being instructed not to label anything with a toddler’s name out of fear of kidnapping. In another instance, a parent asked a daycare worker to serve divorce papers to her husband, which was declined. Additionally, one caregiver recounted receiving a Chucky doll from a parent on the child’s first day of school, with the instruction to show the doll to the child if she acted up.

Saylor notes that while she deals with challenging toddlers, she considers herself fortunate not to face such extraordinary adult demands.

These stories emerge within the broader context of parental stress and burnout. A survey conducted by OnePoll on behalf of Lightbridge Academy highlights the extensive support networks working parents rely on, with the average parent depending on six different people to help raise their child. Despite this, many still feel overwhelmed, often wishing for an additional version of themselves just to manage daily responsibilities.

Daycare centres are experiencing significant pressure due to rising costs and staffing shortages, further exacerbating parental stress. According to the survey, 53% of working parents admit that stress is hindering their ability to be the parents they aspire to be.

Gigi Schweikert, CEO of Lightbridge Academy, commented to SWNS on the findings, stating, “Working families are already walking a fine line and barriers like this can have a huge influence on their work and personal lives. While the answer is beyond an individual employer, childcare centre, or family, it’s up to all of us to speak up, advocate for our needs, and communicate challenges so that each working family is empowered to choose the solution that works best for them.”

The New York Post is reporting these developments and discussions highlighting the challenging dynamics between parents and childcare providers, along with the pressures faced by working families in the current childcare landscape.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.kidspot.com.au/parenting/child/child-care/childcare-workers-reveal-the-craziest-requests-theyve-had-from-parents/news-story/9c528c7cb6ae9c6c95e4a8d86f6a223f> - This article discusses various unusual requests made by parents to childcare workers, such as asking for specific dietary restrictions or unusual behavior expectations.
2. <https://www.redbookmag.com/life/mom-kids/a48139/confessions-of-daycare-workers/> - This piece shares confessions from daycare workers about challenging demands from parents, including requests to alter childcare routines or participate in personal family matters.
3. <https://www.buzzfeed.com/dannicaramirez/parent-horror-stories-from-childcare-workers> - This compilation features childcare workers recounting shocking stories about parents, including instances where parents made unreasonable demands or exhibited concerning behavior.
4. <https://www.boredpanda.com/entitled-mom-asks-daycare-worker-to-change-kids-diapers-outside-work-hours/> - This article highlights a situation where a daycare worker was asked to change a child's diaper outside of work hours, illustrating the extent of some parents' expectations.
5. <https://wholesomeness.com/crazy-experiences-with-parents/> - This collection of stories from childcare workers includes accounts of parents making bizarre or unreasonable requests, such as dictating children's activities or questioning childcare practices.
6. <https://www.yourtango.com/self/working-mom-shares-odd-rule-daycare-pull-toddler-out> - This article discusses a mother's experience with an unusual daycare rule that restricted parent pick-up times, leading her to withdraw her child from the center.
7. <https://nypost.com/2025/04/30/lifestyle/daycare-workers-share-demands-from-unhinged-parents/> - Please view link - unable to able to access data