

= Take Your Daughter to Work Day (The Office) =

" Take Your Daughter To Work Day " is the eighteenth episode of the second season of the American comedy television series The Office , and the show 's twenty @-@ fourth episode overall . It was written by Mindy Kaling and directed by Victor Nelli , Jr . It first aired on March 16 , 2006 on NBC . The episode guest stars Jazz Raycole as Melissa Hudson , Delaney Ruth Farrell as Sasha Flenderson , Spencer Daniels as Jake Palmer , and Jake Kalender as a young Michael Scott .

The series depicts the everyday lives of office employees in the Scranton , Pennsylvania branch of the fictional Dunder Mifflin Paper Company . In this episode , Take Your Daughter to Work Day results in four children spending the day at the office ? Toby Flenderson 's (Paul Lieberstein) daughter Sasha , Stanley Hudson 's (Leslie David Baker) daughter Melissa , Kevin Malone 's (Brian Baumgartner) fiancée 's daughter Abby , and Meredith Palmer 's (Kate Flannery) son Jake . Pam Beesly (Jenna Fischer) tries to befriend at least one child , Melissa develops a crush on Ryan Howard (B.J. Novak) , Michael Scott (Steve Carell) tries to impress the children by claiming he was a child star , and Dwight Schrute (Rainn Wilson) struggles to show secret girlfriend Angela Martin (Angela Kinsey) that he can be stern with Jake .

" Take Your Daughter to Work Day " was one of the last episodes filmed for the season . Due to the presence of actual children on the set , all of the main cast members had to tone down their behavior , making sure that no one cursed or told inappropriate jokes . The installment received largely positive reviews from television critics . " Take Your Daughter to Work Day " received a Nielsen rating of 4 @.@ 2 and was seen by 8 @.@ 8 million viewers .

= = Plot = =

Michael Scott (Steve Carell) is frustrated that Take Your Daughter to Work Day will force him to tone down his office antics . Toby Flenderson (Paul Lieberstein) and Stanley Hudson (Leslie David Baker) bring their daughters , Sasha and Melissa respectively , Kevin Malone (Brian Baumgartner) brings his fiancée 's daughter , Abby , and Meredith Palmer (Kate Flannery) brings her son , Jake . Pam Beesly (Jenna Fischer) is determined to befriend one child by the end of the day . She tries with Abby , who instead takes a liking to Jim . Pam watches , clearly endeared to Jim 's way with kids . Sasha walks into Michael 's office and plays with his toys , and after his jokes she is quite fond of him . Melissa develops a crush on Ryan Howard (B.J. Novak) and asks for his number , while Kelly Kapoor (Mindy Kaling) alerts Stanley that Ryan may be up to something . Stanley angrily reprimands a confused Ryan for his " motives " , which Ryan later described as the " most terrifying moment " of his life .

Dwight Schrute (Rainn Wilson) begins to read one of his childhood horror stories to the children , but Michael enters and insists that he stop upsetting the kids . Michael decides to show the children and the office a video of him as a child (Jake Kalender) during an appearance on a kid 's show , where he revealed his dream was to " get married and have 100 kids , so I can have 100 friends , and no one can say ' no ' to being my friend . " He retreats into his office when he realizes that he never came close to that dream . Toby talks to Michael , who decides to start online dating (with the user name " Little Kid Lover ") . After being tormented by Jake all day , Dwight is finally stern with him , which quietly pleases Angela Martin (Angela Kinsey) . Pam wins over Jake with the paper shredder . Jim Halpert (John Krasinski) leaves the office early to go on a date , to Pam 's chagrin . Michael and Dwight end the party by singing to the children .

= = Production = =

" Take Your Daughter to Work Day " was written by Mindy Kaling , who portrayed Kelly Kapoor on the series . The entry was directed by Victor Nelli , Jr , making it his second directoral credit after the earlier episode " The Carpet " . The episode was one of the last installments filmed for the season . In addition , the episode took five days to film . Each day , over twelve hours was devoted to filming . The episode guest stars Jazz Raycole as Melissa Hudson , Delaney Ruth Farrell as Sasha

Flenderson , Spencer Daniels as Jake Palmer , and Jake Kalender as a young Michael Scott .

Jenna Fischer noted that , due to the presence of actual children on the set , " everyone had to be on their best behavior " , meaning that there was no " cursing and no dirty jokes allowed " . She later said that " we aren 't a ' G @-@ rated ' bunch by nature . " Fischer later joked that " candy is one of my weaknesses " , but she was able to get through the filming of the episode without eating any of it . She explained that during the filming of the earlier second season episodes " Halloween " and " Valentine 's Day " , she had eaten a majority of the candy the crew put on her desk .

The second season DVD contains a number of deleted scenes from this episode . Notable cut scenes include the Party Planning Committee squabbling over what food to serve , Stanley complaining that his daughter is spoiled , Dwight discovering an eraser in his coffee courtesy of Jake , Kelly complaining to Pam that " Stanley 's daughter is such a slut " , and Jim giving Abby an official certificate of appreciation .

= = Cultural references = =

Pam notes that by putting out candy to lure in children , she is acting just like the witch in the fairy tale " Hansel and Gretel " . Michael complains about having to censor himself with children around ; he compares himself to Eddie Murphy in his movie *Raw* and notes " they " want to make him into Murphy in *Daddy Day Care* . Michael , Jim , Dwight get into an argument about super heroes . Michael claims that he is like Superman defending Gotham City . Both Jim and Dwight correct him , and he says that he is more like Aquaman .

Jim and Abby discuss the book *From the Mixed @-@ Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler* and talk whether they would want to spend a night in the Metropolitan Museum of Art or an aquarium . Sasha asks Phyllis if she is Mother Goose . Dwight later reads the short story " Die Geschichte vom Daumenlutscher " from Heinrich Hoffmann 's 1845 book *Struwwelpeter* . Michael later refers to it as a book that Dwight 's " Nazi war @-@ criminal " grandmother read to him . This starts a short discussion about Nazis . Michael argues that Dunder Mifflin is better than Office Depot with the children . He later shows them his performance on *Fundle Bundle* , a parody of " those crappy little local kids ' shows that used to fill time on Saturday mornings before there were such things as infomercials " . Michael and Dwight end the party by performing Crosby , Stills , Nash & Young 's " Teach Your Children " .

= = Reception = =

" Take Your Daughter to Work Day " originally aired on NBC on the March 16 , 2006 . The episode received a 4 @. @ 2 rating / 11 percent share among adults between the ages of 18 and 49 . This means that it was seen by 4 @. @ 2 percent of all 18- to 49 @-@ year @-@ olds , and 11 percent of all 18- to 49 @-@ year @-@ olds watching television at the time of the broadcast . The episode was viewed by 8 @. @ 8 million viewers , and retained 93 percent of its lead @-@ in *My Name is Earl* audience .

The episode received largely positive reviews from critics . Francis Rizzo III of DVD Talk called the scene where the office realizes Michael 's loneliness " absolutely one of the saddest moments I 've seen in recent memory " and noted that " you can 't help but feel for him " . M. Giant of Television Without Pity gave the episode an " A " . Brendan Babish of DVD Verdict called the entry " another great episode " for the series and awarded it an " A ? " . He noted that by bringing the supporting characters ' kids into the office " hilarity ensues " . Babish applauded the lack of an arching plot , allowing " Michael 's faux pas " to take center stage . Michael Sciannamea of AOLTV called " Take Your Daughter to Work Day " the " best episode yet this season " and noted that " the writers will be hard @-@ pressed to come up with a better story than this one . " Sciannamea called " the transformation of Michael 's indifference over the kids to one of acceptance and pure enjoyment of having them around " as the " most interesting aspect of the episode " . He also called Dwight and Michael 's sing @-@ along near the end " the single funniest moment of the season " .