

Promoting Positive Behaviors



Positive attention for positive behaviors:

- Give positive attention to your child for behaviors you want to see again.
- Positive attention can include the following:
 - PRAISE** – Say what you like that your child is doing.
 - REPEAT** – Repeat back what you hear from your child so they know you are listening and appreciate what they said.
 - DESCRIBE**- Describe out loud what your child is doing so they know you are paying attention.

Don't give attention to low-level behaviors:

- Do not give your child attention for unwanted behaviors that are safe but appear when your child seems to be trying to get your attention.
- Your child might repeat the unwanted behaviors to test if they really aren't going to get your attention. The behaviors will go away if your child learns they won't get attention for them.

Safe, consistent, boring consequences:

- Punishments should be safe and not frightening.
- Children who are hit learn to hit.
- Consistent means that the same behaviors result in punishment each time, not just sometimes.
- Stay in control. Keep your face and voice boring so your child doesn't get entertained or scared by your reaction.



Early Childhood Consultation

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