

Working With Parents And Caring Adults To Help Set Boundaries for Toddlers



Explore with Parents How Setting Consistent Boundaries can help their Toddler:

- Learn the importance of following rules
- Develop responsibility, self esteem, and their sense of right and wrong when it comes to their behaviour
- Gain confidence in risky play
- Establish trust
- Make sense of their world

Here are some examples on how to work with parents and caring adults to set boundaries for children who are in your program:

- Engage in a conversation with parents and caring adults about their child's routines - *Sleep, mealtimes, outdoor, and active times*
- Actively listening to their concerns
- Keep in mind religion, culture, values, and beliefs
- Be open and honest about what you are seeing without judging
- Brainstorm solutions or ideas together
- Review and follow up if possible
- Speak with them of the importance of consistency when setting boundaries
- Set clear and simple expectations - *"We need to walk when we are inside"*
- Be a role model - *"I am putting my feet on the floor to be safe"*
- Focus on behaviour not the child - *"When you took the car from Mark, it upset him"*

Videos:



Brain Development In The Early Years - Connecting With Children vs Directing Their Behaviour – From Think, Feel, Act, Dr. Jean Clinton speaks to the importance of positive interactions being important for healthy brain development. Connecting with children is key, rather than correcting and directing them.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BkFcN7K6LhM>



Parent Engagement - Parents As Active Participants In Early Years Programs – We as early learning professionals must view parents and caring adults as connected to their child's learning. They know their children best and we can invite them to support learning in our programs by collaborating and working together.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4827fbA_Slc



How To Set Healthy Boundaries With Kids - Your Morning – Child psychologist Natasha Williams speaks to the importance of adults using their values and being consistent when setting boundaries with their children. It is not so much about what we say to the children, its about what they see. Adults need to be gentle with themselves as it is not easy.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1cJ65TyYR8w>

Articles:



Risky Play – The Sport Information Resource Centre digs deep into the types and functions of risky play, why a parents need to protect their children from harm may actually be hurting them more. The article also gives some resources about putting Risky Play into practice.

<https://sirc.ca/blog/the-importance-of-risky-play-for-physical-social-and-emotional-development/>



Strategies For Dealing With Challenging Behaviours - CCCF – The Canadian Child Care Federation suggests we look at the physical environment, our programs, the approach we take with each child and look at situations through the child's eyes when dealing with challenging behaviours.

<https://cccf-fcsge.ca/ece-resources/topics/challenging-child-behaviours-stress/strategies-for-dealing-with-challenging-behaviours/>



Supporting Positive Interactions With Children – A practice guideline created to help R.E.C.E's understand it is our ethical and professional responsibility to support positive interactions with all children.

<https://bit.ly/3vwaC1U>