

POSITIVE GUIDANCE PHRASES

DO NOT SAY	DO SAY
“STOP! Throwing blocks!”	“You need to build with the blocks”
“DON’T! hit your friends!”	“I need you to use your words”
“WHY aren’t you listening to ME?”	“_____ (child’s name) use your listening ears”
“NO! Running in the classroom!”	“Remember to use your walking feet”
“STOP! Yelling!”	“You need to use your inside voice”
“SHUT UP!”	“Talk quietly”
“DON’T! draw on the walls!”	“Crayons are for only for paper”
“DON’T! Stand on the chairs!”	“Chairs are for sitting”
“STOP! Throwing your food!”	“Remember we eat our food.”
“Why aren’t you picking up toys”	“Put the toys in the box”
“NO! Climbing on the shelves”	“We climb outside on the playground”
“STOP! Throwing the sand”	“This is how we play with the sand”
“STOP! Pushing your friends”	“You need to wait for your turn”
“STOP! Playing with the water!”	“Wash your hands”
“Don’t jump on the cots”	“Find your cot and lay down”
“Don’t bother her!”	“Keep your hands to yourself”
“STOP! Playing with the soap”	“Use the soap to wash your hands”
“NO!_____”	“Remember to_____”
“STOP!_____”	“_____ are for_____”
“DON’T!_____”	“Watch out for_____”
“STOP!_____”	“You need to_____”
“NO!_____”	“Let’s do this_____”

You want to remain calm, because your tone of voice and volume tell children and others alot about how you feel. Remember, there are always other people listening to you.



_____ Staff Signature _____ Date

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Catch children being good and you will find that your need to redirect their behavior will lessen. Here are some positive encouraging phrases to use with children:

- “You do a dynamite job of...”
- “You have really learned how to...”
- “You must feel proud of yourself for...”
- “Excellent idea for...”
- “You’ve done a wonderful job at...”
- “You have worked so hard...”
- “Look how well s/he did at...”
- “WOW!! What a fabulous job you’ve done of...”
- “That’s a cool way to ...”
- “I like that you...”
- “You are a real problem solver for...”
- “Brilliant thinking for...”
- “Give me an EXTRA HUGE high five for...”

TIPS

1. Remember to use a calm and kind voice.
2. Address the behavior, not the child.
3. Get down to the child’s level, when talk to them.
4. Model or demonstrate instructions when you can.
5. Give a solution instead of saying something negative (NO!, STOP!, DON’T)
6. Be specific with short and simple phrases.
7. Acknowledge children’s feelings, “I know you’re mad, but _____”
8. Make children aware of consequences.
9. Ask for a second opinion.
10. Save your voice.

Have FUN with the children!

