

HELPFUL HINTS FOR WORKING WITH CHILDREN

1. Make each child feel important.
2. Accept all children as they are and treat them with equal respect.
3. Give as few commands as possible.
4. Avoid making comparisons between children.
5. Be consistent.
6. Quietly but firmly separate children who are having trouble getting along.
7. Remember that praise is more effective than blame.
8. Give a child a choice only when you really intend to leave the decision up to him/her.
9. Dress in clothes that can be easily cleaned.
10. Be happy and friendly.
11. Always know how many children are in the group; count them from time to time to see that they are all there.
12. Stay where you can see the total group of children.
13. Make sure the children are always chaperoned by an adult.
14. Talk to the children on their level--physically and mentally.
15. Be positive in what you say to children.
16. Give one direction at a time in words the children can understand.
17. Give children time to follow directions.
18. Be alert to the behavior and needs of the children.
19. Watch and wait until you see that your help is really needed.
20. Show children how to do things if they do not understand your spoken directions.
21. Help children finish one activity before they start another.
22. If children dawdle, help them by guiding them with your hands to the activity you want them to complete.
23. Give all children equal opportunities to participate.
24. Laugh with a child, but not at him/her.
25. Discipline a child in private, using positive directions.
26. Say "No," when you MUST, then do not give in when the child cries or begs.
27. Use a sense of humor.
28. Get control of yourself so you can treat the children pleasantly even if you are nervous, worried, ill, or in a bad mood.
29. Allow the child to be a child and act accordingly.
30. The children's needs come first!
31. Discuss the behavior of the children ONLY with the class or the other teachers, not with other friends or other classes.
32. If you are ill, avoid contact with the children.
33. Give the children your complete attention.