The Parenting Pyramid

Ways to Nurture Your Children and Prevent Misbehavior

- Love them no matter what they do; recognize your child's special qualities; spend time together; catch them being good; be a good role model; understand typical things children do at your child's age; have fun together; keep them safe; listen to what they say; childproof your home; remember that children have feelings; hold them tight; touch them gently; keep life on a regular schedule; expect the best behavior; prepare them for difficult situations; help them learn to calm down; help your child feel good about who they are and what they do; trust your child to behave the best he or she can; be clear about what you expect them to do; don't expect perfection, expect effort; you don't need to correct every mistake your child makes; be someone your child can trust and count on; parent with respect.

How to Manage Conflict and Teach Responsibility

- Set rules; explain the rule and explain what will happen if they are broken; use do instead of don't; ask them for their help to solve problems; use charts to track good behavior; focus on the positive; listen; help them when they get frustrated; remind them of the rules; show them how; be consistent; remove them from situations they can't handle; say no when you need to; give them a warning; let them do it again the right way; ask them politely; recognize their feelings; relax; ask for help when they need it.

What to Do When Your Child Misbehaves

- Let them experience the consequences of their actions; take away a privilege; ground them; expect them to fix it or pay for it; give them a reprimand; use a time-out.

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