

Parenting Behaviors

When parents demonstrate development-centered skills, as in the examples below, the result is better child well-being.

Nurturing

- > Celebrates accomplishments.
- > Uses a warm tone.
- > Shows affection.
- > Accepts the child's emotions.
- > Consoles the child when he is upset.
- > Anticipates the child's needs.
- > Provides a safe base.

Designing/Guiding

- > Has reasonable expectations.
- > Sets limits and consequences.
- > Offers supportive directions.
- > Creates a safe, enriching environment for exploration.
- > Establishes family routines.
- > Models appropriate expression of feelings.
- > Teaches as part of discipline.

Responding

- > Consistently reacts to the child's cues.
- > Is open to the child's agenda.
- > Considers the child's temperament.
- > Acknowledges the child's efforts.
- > Demonstrates social turn-taking.

Communicating

- > Labels and points to objects.
- > Replies to the child's words or sounds.
- > Interprets, labels, and responds to the child's nonverbal communications.
- > Reads books, tells stories, and sings.
- > Uses conversational questions.

Supporting Learning

- > Strengthens preliminary skills.
- > Supplies new words, play, and ideas.
- > Asks open-ended questions.
- > Motivates the child.
- > Wonders with the child.
- > Physically helps.
- > Supports the child's independence.

