

RESPECT

RESPECT is the heart and soul of behaviour growth, development, management and leadership. So, take a few minutes to read more about what RESPECT actually is.

Respect is relating to others the way you want to be related to - with attention, kindness and thoughtfulness.

When you are respectful, you are mindful, courteous and patient.

Respect values differences - the different ways we learn, the different ways we relate and interact with each other, our different personalities, temperaments, capabilities and competencies. Different gender, cultures, faith and language are a symbol of diversity and distinction, not division and dissension.

Respect recognizes that a person has as much right to the way they think and feel as you do.

Respect does not embarrass, disgrace or hurt.

When you are respectful, you esteem and honour. You hold others in high regard, valuing them for who and what they are.

Respect values social equity - viewing everyone as equal, with differing roles and responsibilities.

Respect is being considerate of others' principles, beliefs and values.

When you respect others you refrain from criticizing, discriminating, blaming and shaming. You do not deny, intimidate or discount. You acknowledge diversity, rights and responsibilities.

Respect is non-judgmental.

When you are respectful, you deal with situations rather than spend time working out who to blame for the situation. You diagnose the problem before subscribing solutions.

Respect embraces compassion and care. Respect does not denigrate others for what or who they are. Respect does not punish someone for not being perfect.

Respect involves accepting, appreciating, valuing and understanding.

We gain the respect of children and show our respect for children by how we behave with and around them. We need to teach children respectful behaviours. We need to be intentional models of respect. We need to give children the same respect we expect. Hence the value of mutual respect.

Children learn respect from how we treat them and how we treat each other. How we treat children is what we teach them.

RESPECT LOOKS LIKE	RESPECT DOES NOT LOOK LIKE
Side by side / Equal worth	Inferior/ Superior positions
Trust	Fear
Speaking in a friendly, kind manner	Speaking in a rude and hostile manner
Speaking for yourself	Speaking for everyone all the time
Listening carefully without interrupting	Ignoring and taking sides
Playing and working together	Competing against one another
Caring about others feelings	Name calling or blaming
Keeping body to self	Pushing self and others
Complimenting	Criticizing
Caring for people, animals and the environment	Hurting and destroying people, animals and the environment
Including and welcoming others	Excluding and bossing others
Being courteous and caring	Being rude and unkind
Remaining in own space	Invading others space
Being aware of cultural and developmental differences	Treating everyone the same
Viewing mistakes as necessary points of learning	Crucify when a mistake is made
Encouraging differing opinions	Insisting on one opinion - your opinion
Being truthful and sincere	Cheating, lying, stealing
Being trustworthy and reliable- following through with promises	Being unreliable - ignoring / choosing not to follow through with promises
Being fair-minded	Showing preferential treatment
Allowing time for children to complete tasks / transition between tasks	Rushing children to complete / move between tasks
Being consistent with behaviour expectations	Being inconsistent with behaviour expectations
Empowering children to be responsible for their behaviours	Making all the behaviour choices for the children
Accepting and acknowledging children's behaviours	Disregarding misbehaviours
Teaching the expected behaviours (e.g., manners)	Lecturing, shaming, ridiculing, giving orders
Involving children in participatory decision making	Deciding everything for the children
Consistently applying firm boundaries	Having sloppy / rigid boundaries
Doing 'with'	Doing 'for'

There is nothing we ever have to say to a child that needs to be said in a disrespectful way. Use language, words and a tone of voice that would be acceptable to you if your child or friends were speaking to you.