

INCLUSION
STRATEGIES
& TOOLS

TELL CHILDREN WHAT TO DO

(VERSUS WHAT NOT TO DO)

When a child is playing in the water, say:

“Wash your hands.”



When a child is throwing sand, say:

“Put the sand in the pail.”



“Tell children what to do” strategy:

Use a positive statement
Clearly state what is expected

When one child takes another’s toy, say:

“Ask your friend for a turn.”



When a child climbs the furniture, say:

“Get down. Let’s climb on the play structure”



“Tell Children What to Do” in order to:

- Strengthen the connection with the child.
- Teach desired behaviours.
- Reduce attention given to challenging behaviours.
- Promote the development of new skills.

HOW TO “TELL CHILDREN WHAT TO DO” :

1. Observe and take a moment to reflect.
2. Approach the child and get down to their level.
3. Use a calm, neutral tone of voice.
4. Use a clear, precise statement that emphasizes the desired behaviour.
5. Give the child time to process the information.
6. Follow up as needed (e.g., modeling, choices, etc.).
7. Reinforce the child's efforts and successes with positive attention (e.g., smile/ high five/ "you've got _____").

CONSIDERATIONS :

- Ask yourself, "What do I want the child to do?"
- Avoid using "don't"/ "no"/ "stop".
- Keep the statement short and repeat key words.
- Use action words.

Colour on the paper.

Throw the ball in
the basket.

Stay with the group.

walk.

Hang your coat in the
cubby.