

Activity 55

Caregiver Skills Checkup

Directions: The following 12 situations are related to young children and their behavior. If you were caring for the young children described in the situations, how would you solve each of these problems? Write the letter of the best solution in the space provided.

- _____ 1. Four-year-old Dana has just painted the kitchen floor with her watercolors. You should:
- A. Tell Dana angrily that she may not use her paints ever again.
 - B. Have Dana help you clean the floor.
 - C. Send Dana to her room.
- _____ 2. You are taking six-year-old Andy to the park. It is cold, and you tell him he needs to wear his hat. He doesn't want to wear it. You should:
- A. Let him go to the park without his hat.
 - B. Tell Andy he can't go to the park.
 - C. Explain to him that he needs his hat to keep him warm outdoors.
- _____ 3. Yvonne's parents are leaving for the evening, and Yvonne, who is three, begins to cry as she watches them go. You should:
- A. Tell Yvonne to stop crying or you will not read her a story.
 - B. Tell Yvonne that her parents will come home after she is asleep.
 - C. Sit down with Yvonne and read her a story or play her favorite game.
- _____ 4. Four-year-old Terrence wants the toy his two-year-old sister, Kendra, is playing with. He grabs the toy and hits her when she tries to take it back. You should:
- A. Let the children come to an agreement themselves.
 - B. Ask Kendra to share the toy.
 - C. Tell Terrence firmly that hitting is not allowed and remove him from the situation.
- _____ 5. It is time for Mike and George, who are both four years old, to come inside for lunch. They do not want to stop playing in the sandbox. You should tell the children:
- A. "I will be very upset with you if you don't come inside right now."
 - B. "I know you are having fun. It's time for lunch. We'll come back outside later."
 - C. "Come inside now or you won't get any lunch."

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- _____ 6. Three-year-old Luis has fallen and skinned his knee. He is crying, but is not seriously injured. You should:
- A. Say to Luis, "Be a big boy and forget about it."
 - B. Comfort Luis by hugging him; then clean and bandage the cut.
 - C. Tell Luis, "You should have been more careful."
- _____ 7. Two-year-old Mary and four-year-old Katie are throwing the cushions off the sofa. This is against their parents' rules. You should tell the girls:
- A. "Stay off the sofa."
 - B. "You might get hurt if you play on the sofa."
 - C. "Let's play outside for a while."
- _____ 8. Without being reminded, four-year-old Chris helped you pick up the toys before naptime. You should:
- A. Praise Chris by saying, "Thank you for helping put away the toys."
 - B. Respond by saying, "Why don't you help more often?"
 - C. Reward Chris by letting him skip his nap.
- _____ 9. You and three-year-old Amy are sitting in the living room. While Amy plays with her blocks, you are watching a movie on television. Suddenly Amy becomes tired of the blocks and wants to play outside. You should:
- A. Take Amy outside to play, but sit by the window so that you can watch her and the movie at the same time.
 - B. Tell Amy that the movie will be over in 30 minutes, and then she can go outside to-play.
 - C. Turn off the movie, go outside, and play with Amy.
- _____ 10. It is five-year-old Jared's bedtime, and he wants to wrestle with you. You should:
- A. Offer Jared a snack instead of wrestling with him.
 - B. Wrestle with Jared, being careful not to hurt him.
 - C. Explain to Jared that it is bedtime, and read him a story instead of wrestling.
- _____ 11. You are preparing lunch for four-year-old Rita. She wants a piece of chocolate cake for a snack while she is waiting. You should:
- A. Give Rita a small piece of cake.
 - B. Tell Rita she can have the cake for dessert, after lunch.
 - C. Explain to Rita that cake contains many calories and very few nutrients.
- _____ 12. You are munching on dry-roasted peanuts for a snack while watching television with Wade, who is two years old. He asks you for some peanuts. You have read that peanuts could cause two-year-olds to choke. You should:
- A. Put away the peanuts and suggest that you spread some peanut butter on crackers for him instead.
 - B. Tell him that he does not need a snack right now.
 - C. Give him a few peanuts but watch him carefully.