

Using Positive Communication

The following are common responses to children's behavior. With your partner, read each and come up with a positive replacement.

Common Responses	Positive Replacements
"Don't just drop your coat on the floor."	
"Stop running around the room."	
"Quit hitting! Bad boy!"	
"Stop climbing on the table."	
"Why are you so slow?"	
"Stop that screeching noise."	
"Please quit whining."	
"You don't get to take all the play-doh."	
"Okay, who tore up the snack mat?"	
"Why can't you share?"	

Once you have turned these into statements that are positive and that would tell a child what you do want them to do, find another pair to debrief with.

Where do you agree? Disagree? Explain your thinking to one another. Agreement is not necessary—but discussion is.