

Reinforcement

Reinforcement is something we do after a child's behavior that _____ the child to use the behavior again.

For example, if the child does what you ask him to do, and you praise him, he will be more likely to do what you ask the next time you ask him to do something.

Or if a child complains about doing a task, and you allow her to escape the task, she will be more likely to complain the next time you ask her to do a task.

So we use reinforcement when we want to see the behavior _____, and we don't use it when we _____ want to see the behavior again.

Praise

_____ frequently can be a very effective form of reinforcement.

For it to be most effective, the praise must come from someone who has a _____ relationship with the child.

The _____ the positive relationship, the
 _____ effective the praise will be.

Praise has distinct advantages.

- It is a _____ form of reinforcement.
- If used properly, the child will know exactly what was done _____.
- It strengthens the _____ between the person giving the praise and the one receiving it.
- It's real _____!
- You always _____ it in your "back pocket".

Always Use Praise

Whenever possible, use praise as your _____ reinforcement.

If you use other reinforcement, praise should _____ that reinforcement.

Pairing praise with other reinforcement will make praise

stronger so that, at a later time, you might be able to
 _____ the reinforcement to praise only.

What Praise Should Sound Like

Praise should be _____.

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This means that the child should know exactly what he did right.

For example, instead of saying, “Good job,” you should say, “I like how you cleaned off the table. There isn’t even a smudge on it!”

Catch The Kid Being Good!

Attention is such a _____ motivator that...

You get what you pay _____ to.

For that reason, you need to pay a _____ of attention to the good behavior.

To do this, keep an eye on the child and _____ her being good. Then praise her.

Another variation of catching a kid being good is called the _____ Jar.

When you catch the kid being good, you _____ her and _____ a marble in a marble jar. When the marble jar gets full, something nice happens, like everyone gets everyone gets to play a special game.

The Marble Jar will not work if the kids _____ gets a lot of the reward that is being offered. For example, a special game probably will not work if everyone already gets to play that game a lot.

Generally speaking, the marbles for all of the kids should go together in _____ jar.

This will help to encourage _____ and a sense of working together.

Withholding Reinforcement

Completely _____ reinforcement for a previously reinforced behavior is called extinction.

You will see an _____ in the behavior when you first withhold reinforcement. This is called an extinction burst.

If you are consistent in not providing reinforcement, the behavior will finally _____.

How Can We Use This Information About Extinction Bursts?

When we are in an extinction burst, we can comfort ourselves with the knowledge that the behavior will decrease if we _____ to our guns and don't reinforce the behavior again.

Important Note

If you anticipate that an extinction burst might turn into behavior that could _____ someone, including the person using the behavior, get guidance from a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) first.

Intermittent Reinforcement

Intermittent reinforcement is providing reinforcement for the behavior _____ some of the time.

Intermittent reinforcement makes a behavior more _____ or longer lasting.

We _____ appropriate behaviors to become durable.

For example, we would want a child to continue to use

safe street crossing skills, even if she doesn't receive praise every time she uses them.

We _____ want problem behaviors to become durable.

For example, we don't want a child to continue to use hitting to get what he wants.

How Can We Use This Information About Intermittent Reinforcement?

We can use it to motivate us to be _____ and not "give in" occasionally.

An Extinction Burst Is The Wrong Time To Reinforce.

If we give in during an extinction burst, we have taught the child _____ things.

First, we have taught the child to _____ if he doesn't get his way.

Second, we have taught him keep trying because the behavior works _____. This is because we have used intermittent reinforcement and have made the behavior more durable.