

5

Critical Emotional Needs of Children



Acceptance

A child needs to feel **Accepted**.

Accepting children means listening and trying to understand their feelings, point of view, concerns and ideas.

Adults **accept** children by:

- Understanding that feelings aren't right or wrong and a child has a right to have their own feelings.
- Catching children doing positive things and recognizing them for it.
- Responding calmly when setting limits and enforcing rules.

When adults condemn or ridicule feelings or opinions of children they feel something is wrong with them. When this happens, adults reduce the chances of children listening to them and being able to influence them.

Ignoring or ridiculing a child's feelings or opinions is a reflection of the child as a person. Paying attention to and discussing children's feelings even when you do not agree with them strengthens the relationship between adult & child.

5

Critical Emotional Needs of Children



Acceptance

A child needs to feel **Accepted**.

Accepting children means listening and trying to understand their feelings, point of view, concerns and ideas.

Adults **accept** children by:

- Understanding that feelings aren't right or wrong and a child has a right to have their own feelings.
- Catching children doing positive things and recognizing them for it.
- Responding calmly when setting limits and enforcing rules.

When adults condemn or ridicule feelings or opinions of children they feel something is wrong with them. When this happens, adults reduce the chances of children listening to them and being able to influence them.

Ignoring or ridiculing a child's feelings or opinions is a reflection of the child as a person. Paying attention to and discussing children's feelings even when you do not agree with them strengthens the relationship between adult & child.

5

Critical Emotional Needs of Children



Acceptance

A child needs to feel **Accepted**.

Accepting children means listening and trying to understand their feelings, point of view, concerns and ideas.

Adults **accept** children by:

- Understanding that feelings aren't right or wrong and a child has a right to have their own feelings.
- Catching children doing positive things and recognizing them for it.
- Responding calmly when setting limits and enforcing rules.

When adults condemn or ridicule feelings or opinions of children they feel something is wrong with them. When this happens, adults reduce the chances of children listening to them and being able to influence them.

Ignoring or ridiculing a child's feelings or opinions is a reflection of the child as a person. Paying attention to and discussing children's feelings even when you do not agree with them strengthens the relationship between adult & child.