

10 Commandments of Interactions with Children

- I. Thou shalt not speak to a child from across the room
- II. Thou shalt get down on the child's eye-level and use child's name
- III. Thou shalt accept, help identify, and validate children's feelings
- IV. Thou shalt teach and encourage children to use problem-solving
- V. Thou shalt be aware of tone of voice and speak to children respectfully, always mindful of their self-esteem
- VI. Thou shalt ask open-ended questions to encourage thinking skills
- VII. Thou shalt greet children warmly when they arrive, and continue to make them feel welcome and accepted throughout the day
- VIII. Thou shalt state things in a positive way; telling children what they can do, and not what they can't do
- IX. Thou shalt serve as a positive role-model
- X. Thou shalt remember to use praise and positive reinforcement – including appropriate affection