Promoting Positive Behavior

Behavior is simply the way in which one acts or conducts oneself. At GiGi’s Playhouse we focus on Promoting Positive Behavior. We react to challenging behaviors with compassion, kindness, and a desire to problem solve to find and teach more appropriate replacement behaviors.

Here are some Tips to promote positive behavior:

• **Offer structured choices**
  - Gives the participant some buy-in and some control.
  - Make sure any choice you provide is an acceptable option – “do you want the apple or the carrots?”
• **Visual cues are critical.**
  - Visuals provide tangible information that doesn't disappear like the spoken word.
  - Visuals promote understanding and independence.
  - We ALL use visuals!
• **Provide clear directions and instructions**
  - Be very clear about the expected behavior
  - Use visual supports, model it, and let the student practice the expected behaviors
  - Use short, simple sentences
  - Provide adequate wait time for the student to process the information or request, this could be as long as 8-10 seconds
  - Use positive language - “keep your feet on the floor”
  - Use first/then where “then” is the incentive
• **Praise, praise, praise!**
  - Look for positives!
  - Provide immediate feedback when the student accomplishes the desired behavior – no matter how small the accomplishment.
  - The reinforced behaviors are the behaviors that will be more likely to occur again!

Visit our Virtual Playhouse website for a full presentation on Promoting Positive Behavior!
https://gigisplayhouse.org/virtual/programs/family-speaker-series/