

# Create a strong bond with the child by following the child's lead during activity or play (also called "Child Directed Interactions" or CDI)

Increased self-confidence

Increased feelings of security, safety, and attachment with caregivers and parents

Reduced challenging behaviors

Higher caregiver satisfaction

Better attention span

Builds social-emotional skills



# How to interact positively with a Child

**P** Praise your child for specific positive behaviors



Thank you for sharing!

**R** Reflect on what they are saying - listen, repeat, paraphrase



Yes. That's a blue plane!

**I** Imitate what they do, mirror their actions



Just like you!

**D** Describe and narrate what the ongoing activity or play



You placed the block on top!

**E** Enjoy, relax and delight in the child's actions and presence



I love playing with you!

# What not to do during Child Directed Interactions

## Criticism or Sarcasm

- Can lead to a spiral negative interactions
- Reduces enjoyment
- Focusses attention on behaviors you want to decrease



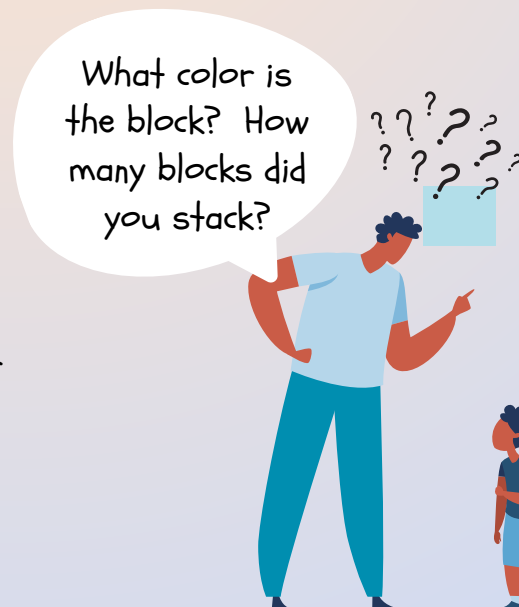
## Command

- Increases opportunities for conflict during the activity
- Children with disruptive behavior tendencies often respond negatively to commands



## Questions

- May communicate parent is uncertain or not listening
- Focuses on quizzing or teaching rather than interaction
- May communicate disapproval



# How to handle difficult behaviors during play



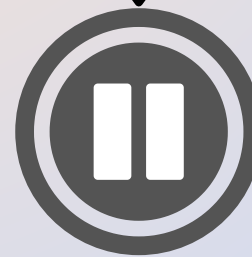
**Dangerous or destructive behaviors**



**End play**



**Annoying or obnoxious behaviors**



**Selective attention**