



IDEAS IN

# Childhood Ministry

[www.bgco.org/toptentips](http://www.bgco.org/toptentips)

## Practical Suggestions for Guiding Behavior

For each blank choose the word or words that you think complete the sentence. Write your choice in the blank.

1. Be organized and \_\_\_\_\_ (sleepy, grumpy, prepared) so you can focus on the children.
2. Be on \_\_\_\_\_ (top of the world, a diet, time) so you can take charge of the room before the children do.
3. Learn the \_\_\_\_\_ (hair color, potential tithing ability, names) of the children quickly.
4. Show a genuine \_\_\_\_\_ (article, diamond, interest) in the children. Build a relationship with the children.
5. Maintain \_\_\_\_\_ (electrical, cold medicine, eye) contact.
6. Set limits and be \_\_\_\_\_ (limited, speeding, consistent) in maintaining them.
7. Remain \_\_\_\_\_ (naturally gray, on a diet, calm) if misbehavior occurs.
8. When there is a problem, focus \_\_\_\_\_ (the camera, on a spot on the ceiling, on the behavior) not the child.
9. Avoid \_\_\_\_\_ storing, recycling, comparing) one child with another.
10. Accept the \_\_\_\_\_ (credit, check but only with two forms of ID, Child) unconditionally, as God loves and accepts us.
11. Help the child understand the natural \_\_\_\_\_ (ingredients, flavoring, consequences) of her behavior
12. Manage \_\_\_\_\_ (an apartment building, a manger, the environment). Reduce outside noise, visual clutter, and other distractions. Bring out materials only when they are needed. Secure furniture that is the correct size for children. Maintain a comfortable temperature.
13. Use \_\_\_\_\_ (words you've never heard before, words that will confuse the children and keep them guessing, prompts). Prompt or remind the children of the behavior you want before you want it. Instead of %Who can tell me the name ofō +try %Who can raise their hand and tell me the name of..+
14. Look for opportunities to \_\_\_\_\_ (ridicule, ignore, affirm) appropriate behavior.
15. Have other teachers in the room \_\_\_\_\_ (stand by the door and chat, pass notes but only if they stay awake, sit with the children) and model appropriate behavior.
16. Give directions in a \_\_\_\_\_ (threatening, negative, positive) and (cryptic, obfuscatory, clear) form. Think in terms of do rather than donq.
17. Give children opportunities to \_\_\_\_\_ (sit for hours, make strange popping sounds with their noses, move) and use energy in constructive ways.
18. Keep the children \_\_\_\_\_ (waiting in the hall until youqve had a chance to finish your coffee, on a shelf, involved) and active in the learning.
19. Make the session \_\_\_\_\_ (dull and boring, incredibly dull and phenomenally boring, fun and interesting)!
20. Pray \_\_\_\_\_ (as a last resort that the children will all stay home next time, regularly).  
If you selected the third choice each time, good for you! If not, reread number 20 and start over.

