Parents and Toddlers Series

AGENDAS AND CHECKLISTS FOR EACH SESSION

By Carolyn Webster-Stratton, Ph.D.
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Important Notes to Remember

NOTE: These agendas and checklists are the minimum number of sessions to be provided.

NOTE: Use of these protocols is required for group leader certification/accreditation in this program. See more information on the Incredible Years® website, www.incredible-years.com

NOTE: Agendas and Checklists in this section may be kept as master copies and may be photocopied for reuse in Incredible Years® classes. You may only use these agendas/checklists for the Incredible Years® Toddler program parenting classes. You must maintain all copyright information on the agendas and checklists and you may not alter any of the content. These forms are also available on our website, www.incredibleyears.com (in Group Leader Resources section).
**Tailoring the Incredible Years® Parenting Programs to the Parent Population**

*(Toddler version)*

The nature of the parent population will determine the length of the program and number of vignettes shown.

**Prevention Program**

For group leaders who are offering the Incredible Years® Toddler programs as a prevention program, it is recommended that you follow the protocols as outlined here. It will take 12–14, 2-hour sessions for the toddler program. The vignettes shown in these protocols are applicable for parents of children ages 0-3 years.

Depending on whether the group leader is offering the program as a “universal” program to all parents regardless of risk status, or, as a “selected prevention” program, (that is, parents who are at higher risk for having children with problems either due to socio-economic disadvantage or other family risk factors), minor adjustments in the vignettes shown will need to be made according to the following criteria:

- Parents of typically developing children who readily grasp the parental attention and child-directed play concepts will be able to complete these programs as outlined in the session protocols.
- For parents for whom child-directed play, coaching, and play concepts are new and unfamiliar, it is recommended that group leaders spend additional sessions practicing these skills in small groups.
- For parents who have toddlers with some aggressive behavior problems the group leader will want to spend more time on the limit setting and handling misbehavior programs as well as the coaching programs. For parents who usually resort to spanking and hitting, it will be helpful to add several sessions to cover the discipline material adequately.
- For less experienced families and families referred for child abuse or neglect, more time will need to be spent on topics such as normal developmental milestones as well as on the child-directed play and coaching topics in order to promote positive parent-baby attachment and realistic expectations. In addition more emphases may be given to the baby and toddler-proofing safety topics.
Agendas and Checklists for Each Session

The content covered in each session needs to be paced according to each parent groups’ particular needs for discussion and content, level of participation, and prior familiarity with the parenting concepts. In general we suggest that you try to cover 8–10 vignettes per two-hour session. You do not need to complete one entire part or topic in one session. Rather, pace yourself according to questions and interest in group. The subsequent session is used to troubleshoot any questions or problems and show the remaining vignettes on that topic as a review.

The following outline is a suggested guideline for completing the entire program in 13–14, 2-to 2 1/2-hour weekly sessions. If you do not complete all the vignettes in a session, you can continue showing them in the next session. For large or very talkative groups you might find it takes longer to complete the program.
Parents and Toddlers Series Outline

The following outline is a suggested guideline for completing the entire program in 13, 2-hour weekly sessions. If you do not complete all the vignettes in a session, you can continue showing them in the next session. Be sure to pace the learning according to parents’ background knowledge and experiences.

**Session One:**  
*Child-Directed Play Promotes Positive Relationships*  
Vignettes: Part 1, 1–12

**Session Two:**  
*Promoting Toddlers’ Language with Child-Directed Coaching*  
Vignettes: Part 2, 1–9

**Session Three:**  
*Promoting Toddlers’ Language with Child-Directed Coaching, cont’d.*  
Vignettes: Part 2, 10–16

**Session Four:**  
*Social and Emotional Coaching*  
Vignettes: Part 3, 1–8

**Session Five:**  
*Social and Emotional Coaching, cont’d.*  
Vignettes: Part 3, 9–16

**Session Six:**  
*The Art of Praise and Encouragement*  
Vignettes: Part 4, 1–15

**Session Seven:**  
*Spontaneous Incentives for Toddlers*  
Vignettes: Part 5, 1–6

**Session Eight:**  
*Handling Separations and Reunions with Toddlers*  
Vignettes: Part 6, 1–5

**Session Nine:**  
*Positive Discipline-Effective Limit Setting*  
Vignettes: Part 7, 1–13

**Session Ten:**  
*Positive Discipline-Effective Limit Setting, cont’d.*  
Vignettes: Part 7, 14–25

**Session Eleven:**  
*Positive Discipline-Handling Misbehavior*  
Vignettes: Part 8, 1–7

**Session Twelve:**  
*Positive Discipline-Handling Misbehavior, cont’d.*  
Vignettes: Part 8, 8–15

**Session Thirteen:**  
*Review and Celebration*
Incredible Years® Toddlers’ Program

Outline—Session One

Child-Directed Play Promotes Positive Relationships

I. Welcome
Greet each parent.
Leaders introduce themselves.
Establish yourself as part of “team” collaborating with parents.

II. Introductions
Find out group members’ names, ages of toddlers and personal goals.
Write parents’ goals on board or poster so you and group can refer back to them. (Record in Parents Thinking Like Scientists goal sheet.)

III. Ground Rules
Ask for parent ideas on group rules and why they think they are important (confidentiality, respect for others, being positive, right to pass, equal time to talk).
Agree on rules for group, and post rules each week.

IV. Program Goals and Topics
Give an overview of the program, its general goals, topics and format. (show pyramid)

V. Topic of Day: Child-directed Play Promotes Positive Relationships
A. Buzz or brainstorm benefits of parent play with toddlers.
B. Vignettes: Part 1: 1–12
C. Buzz activities—share songs and games to play with toddlers.
D. Buzz ways to promote imaginary play.
E. Practice—child-directed play (in large group and in triads).
F. Buzz—how to set up play times at home.

Key Concepts
- Value of showing attention and appreciation as a way of increasing positive child behaviors
- Importance of respecting children’s ideas
- Parents modeling compliance
- Balancing power between parents and children
- Appreciating children’s perspective and developmental abilities
- Building children’s self-esteem and creativity through child-directed play
- The “attention rule”—attending to positive behavior and ignoring negative behavior results in increased positive social behaviors in child
- The modeling principle—by parents avoiding the use of critical statements and demands and substituting positive polite language, children learn more positive communication
- Understanding how to express joy through games & songs with toddlers
- Learning how to be child-directed or child-centered in play interaction
- Understanding how to promote imaginary & pretend play
- Learning about toddler’s developmental needs & milestones
VI. Review Home Activities
Summarize Key Points (Refrigerator Notes).
Pass out home practice forms.
Read aloud and make sure parents understand the home activities. Let them know that you will be asking about their experiences at the beginning of the next session.

VII. Parent Evaluation
Collect evaluation forms before parents leave.

VIII. Closing
Take this time to formally close the group. Summarize the learning.
Thank parents for coming; praise their willingness to participate.
Remind them of any details they need to know for the next session.
LEADER CHECKLIST

Session One

Topic: Child-directed Play Promotes Positive Relationships

Vignettes: Part 1: 1–12

SITE: __________________________ DATE: __________________________

LEADER NAMES: __________________________ TIME: __________________________

VIGNETTES COVERED: Part 1:
1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9  10  11  12
(Circle vignettes shown.)

DID I YES NO
1. Write the agenda on the board __________ __________
2. Welcome and make introductions __________ __________
3. Review parents’ goals (show pyramid & complete goal sheet) __________ __________
4. Brainstorm group ground rules __________ __________
5. Present program goals __________ __________
6. Explain format for meetings __________ __________
7. Buzz—benefits of child-directed play with toddlers __________ __________
8. Buzz—songs and games to play with toddlers __________ __________
9. Practice—child-directed play __________ __________
10. Explain importance of home activities and reading assignments __________ __________
11. Assign this week’s home activities (self-monitoring checklist) __________ __________

Handout Pads:
- Home Activities for the Week – Child-Directed Play Promotes Positive Relationships

Xerox:
- Record Sheet: Play Times
- Parents Thinking Like Scientists
- Parents and Children Having Fun
- Parenting Pyramid
- Properties of Play Toys
- Refrigerator Notes about Child-Directed Play
- Things I Can Do! (12-18 months)
- Checklist for Evaluating Play
- Refrigerator Notes about Social and Emotional Development and Physical Development (12-18 months) (2)

Self-Evaluation
“Gems” of Session—Reminder of things to pursue next session
Incredible Years® Toddlers’ Program

Outline—Session Two

Promoting Toddlers’ Language with Child-Directed Coaching

I. Welcome
   Greet each parent.

II. Review Ground Rules

III. Ask about reading and home activities
   Ask about experiences with child-directed play.

IV. Buzz
   Pair up parents to share “Things I Can Do” with each other. Review developmental milestones with handouts for 12–18 months.

V. Topic of Day: Promoting Toddlers’ Language Development
   A. Brainstorm barriers to play time.
   B. Vignettes: Part 2: 1–9
   C. Buzz—reading readiness strategies.
   D. Practice—reading a picture book and talking about pictures.
   E. Practice—descriptive commenting and persistence coaching.
   F. Buzz—child’s temperament.
   G. Practice—persistence coaching.

Key Concepts
- Understanding how to model and prompt language development
- Learning and practicing child-directed coaching
- Promoting pre-reading skills
- Learning how to use “descriptive commenting”

VI. Review Home Activities
   Summarize Key Points (Refrigerator Notes).
   Pass out home practice forms.
   Read aloud and make sure parents understand the home activities.

VII. Parent Evaluation
   Remind parents of the importance of parent feedback for the group leader and the entire program.
   Collect evaluation forms before parents leave.

VIII. Closing
   Take this time to recap the learning.
   Thank parents for coming; praise their willingness to explore and try new ways of parenting.
   Remind them of any details they need to know for the next session.
**LEADER CHECKLIST**

**Session Two**

**Topic:** Promoting Toddlers’ Language with Child-Directed Coaching

**Vignettes: Part 2: 1–9**

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**LEADER NAMES:** __________________  **TIME:** ______________

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<td>1. Write the agenda on the board</td>
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<td>2. Review group ground rules</td>
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<td>3. Review parents’ goals</td>
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<td>4. Review play time home activities (Buzz)</td>
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<td>5. Brainstorm barriers to playing with children</td>
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<td>6. Talk about developmental milestones</td>
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<td>7. Buzz–reading readiness strategies</td>
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<td>8. Practice interactive reading skills</td>
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<td>9. Practice child-directed descriptive commenting</td>
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<td>10. Explain importance of home activities and reading assignments</td>
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<td>11. Assign this week’s home activities (self-monitoring checklist)</td>
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**Handout Pads:**

- Home Activities of Week: Descriptive Commenting (handout 2A)

**Xerox:**

- Record Sheet: PlayTime–Brainstorm Personal Thoughts about Play
- “Things I can Do” (19-24 months)
- Refrigerator Notes: Social and Emotional Development and Physical Development (19–24 months)
- Refrigerator Notes: Reading With Your Toddler (2)
- Refrigerator Notes: Building Blocks for Reading With CARE

**Self-Evaluation**

- “Gems” of Session—Reminder of things to pursue next session
I. **Welcome**

Greet each parent.

II. **Review Ground Rules**

III. **Ask about reading and home activities**

Ask about experiences with play.

IV. **Buzz**

Pair up parents to share “Things I Can Do” with each other. Review developmental milestones with handouts for different ages.

V. **Topic of Day: Promoting Toddlers’ Language Development**

A. Brainstorm barriers to play time.
B. Vignettes: Part 2: 10–16
C. Practice—descriptive commenting and persistence coaching.
D. Buzz—child’s temperament.
E. Practice—persistence coaching.
F. Buzz—encouraging words.

**Key Concepts**

- Understanding how to model and prompt language development
- Learning how to coach preschool readiness skills
- Promoting pre-writing readiness skills
- Learning about “persistence coaching” to help toddlers manage their frustration and persist with an activity
- Appreciating differences in children’s developmental abilities and temperament

VI. **Review Home Activities**

Summarize Key Points (Refrigerator Notes).

Pass out home practice forms.

Read aloud and make sure parents understand the home activities. Explain buddy calls.

VII. **Parent Evaluation**

Remind parents of the importance of parent feedback for the group leader and the entire program.

Collect evaluation forms before parents leave.

VIII. **Closing**

Take this time to recap the learning.

Thank parents for coming; praise their willingness to explore and try new ways of parenting.

Remind them of any details they need to know for the next session.
LEADER CHECKLIST
Session Three

Topic: Promoting Toddlers’ Language with Child-Directed Coaching

Vignettes: Part 2: 10-16

SITE: __________________________ DATE: ______________

LEADER NAMES: __________________ TIME: ______________

VIGNETTES COVERED: Part 1:
10 11 12 13 14 15 16  (Circle vignettes shown.)

DID I YES NO
1. Write the agenda on the board _______ _______
2. Review group ground rules _______ _______
3. Review parents’ goals _______ _______
4. Review play time home activities (Buzz) _______ _______
5. Practice persistence coaching _______ _______
6. Buzz–child’s temperament characteristics _______ _______
7. Buzz–encouraging statements _______ _______
8. Explain importance of home activities and reading assignments _______ _______
9. Assign this week’s home activities (self-monitoring checklist) _______ _______
10. Explain buddy calls _______ _______

Handout Pads:
Home Activities of Week: Persistence Coaching (handout 2b)

Kerox:
Calling Your Buddy
Refrigerator Notes: Facilitating Children’s Language Development and Pre-School Readiness Skills
Child and Parent Temperament Handouts (5 pages)
Refrigerator Notes: Goodness of Fit

Self-Evaluation
“Gems” of Session—Reminder of things to pursue next session
Incredible Years® Toddlers’ Program

Outline—Session Four

Social and Emotion Coaching

I. Welcome
   Greet each parent.

II. Review Ground Rules

III. Ask about reading and home activities
    Explore experiences with academic and persistence coaching.

IV. Buzz
    Pair up parents to share with each other the play time they spent with their children during the week.

V. Topic of Day: Social and Emotional Coaching
   A. Brainstorm ways they overcame barriers to child-directed play or descriptive commenting.
      Practice any home experiences that were difficult after brainstorming strategies to handle situation in a different way.
   B. Vignettes: Part 3: 1–8
   C. Buzz—behavior parents can model or prompt.
   D. Buzz—emotion words.
   E. Review toddler self-regulation handout.
   F. Practice social and emotion coaching.

Key Concepts
- Understand how to use emotion coaching to build children’s emotional vocabulary and encourage their expression of feelings.
- Understand how to do social coaching to encourage children’s social skills such as sharing, being respectful, waiting, asking, taking turns, etc.
- The “modeling principle”—by parents avoiding the use of critical statements and demands and substituting positive polite language, children learn more positive communication
- Understanding how to coach sibling and peer play using modeling, prompting and praise to encourage social skills

VI. Review Home Activities
    Summarize Key Points (Refrigerator Notes).
    Pass out home practice forms.
    Read aloud and make sure parents understand the home activities. Encourage each parent to practice and do the reading.
VII. Parent Evaluation

Remind parents of the importance of parent feedback for the group leader and the entire program.
Collect evaluation forms before parents leave.

VIII. Closing

Take this time to formally close the group. Recap the learning. Remind them of any details they need to know for the next session.
LEADER CHECKLIST

Session Four

Topic: Social and Emotion Coaching

Vignettes: Part 3: 1–8

SITE: __________________________ DATE: ________________

LEADER NAMES: ____________________ TIME: ________________

VIGNETTES COVERED: Part 3:
1  2  3A  3B  4  5  6  7  8  (Circle vignettes shown.)

DID I YES NO
1. Write the agenda on the board __________ __________
2. Review group ground rules __________ __________
3. Buzz–playtime home activities __________ __________
4. Brainstorm barriers to play or descriptive commenting __________ __________
5. Buzz–behaviors parents can model or prompt __________ __________
6. Buzz–emotion words __________ __________
7. Practice/role play social coaching __________ __________
8. Talk about toddlers beginning development of self-regulation skills __________ __________
9. Explain importance of home activities and reading assignments __________ __________
10. Assign this week’s home activities (self-monitoring checklist) __________ __________

Handout Pads:
Home Activities of Week: Social and Emotion Coaching (handout A)

Xerox:
Record Sheet: Play Time
Brainstorm–Personal Thoughts About Play
Refrigerator Notes about Toddler’s Self-Regulation Skills, Social Competence (2)
“Things I Can Do” (25–30 months)
Refrigerator Notes about Emotion Coaching
Refrigerator Notes about Social Coaching

Self-Evaluation
“Gems” of Session—Reminder of things to pursue next session
Incredible Years® Toddler Program

Outline—Session Five

Social and Emotion Coaching, continued

I. Welcome
Greet each parent.

II. Review Ground Rules

III. Ask about reading and home activities
Ask about experiences with social and emotional coaching.

IV. Buzz
Pair up parents to share with each other “Things I Can Do” developmental landmarks.

V. Topic of Day: Social and Emotional Coaching
A. Practice any home experiences that were difficult, after brainstorming strategies to handle the situation in a different way.
B. Vignettes: Part 3: 9–16
C. Buzz—social behavior coaching.
D. Practice social and emotion coaching using imaginary play.
E. Explain child developmental levels (2nd handout).
E. Talk about ways to extend coaching to other settings such as meal times & dressing.

Key Concepts
• Understand how to use emotion coaching to build children’s emotional vocabulary and encourage their expression of feelings.
• Understand how to do social coaching to encourage children’s social skills such as sharing, being respectful, waiting, asking, taking turns, etc.
• Understanding how to coach sibling and peer play using modeling, prompting and praise to encourage social skills
• Learning how to apply coaching principles in other settings such as meal-times, bath time, and grocery store trips

VI. Review Home Activities
Summarize Key Points (Refrigerator Notes).
Pass out home practice forms.
Read aloud and make sure parents understand the home activities. Encourage each parent to practice and do the reading.

VII. Parent Evaluation
Remind parents of the importance of parent feedback for the group leader and the entire program.
Collect evaluation forms before parents leave.

VIII. Closing
Take this time to formally close the group. Recap the learning.
Remind them of any details they need to know for the next session.
LEADER CHECKLIST

Session Five

Topic: Social and Emotion Coaching, continued

Vignettes: Part 3: 9–16

SITE: ______________________________________ DATE: __________________

LEADER NAMES: __________________________ TIME: __________________

VIGNETTES COVERED: Part 3:
9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 (Circle vignettes shown.)

DID I YES NO
1. Write the agenda on the board
2. Review group ground rules
3. Ask about buddy calls
4. Buzz–playtime home activities
5. Buzz–social behaviors
6. Talk about toddlers beginning development of self-regulation skills
7. Practice emotional and social coaching in different settings (e.g., mealtimes, dressing)
8. Explain importance of home activities and reading assignments
9. Assign this week’s home activities (self-monitoring checklist)

Handout Pads:
Home Activities of Week: Social and Emotion Coaching (handout B)

Xerox:
Record Sheet: Praise
Record Sheet: Play Time
Refrigerator Notes about picky eating
Child Developmental levels (2)
Behaviors I Want to See More of
Refrigerator Notes about Child-Directed Peer Play
Refrigerator Notes about Social, Emotional & Physical Landmarks

Self-Evaluation
“Gems” of Session—Reminder of things to pursue next session
**Incredible Years® Toddlers’ Program**

**Outline—Session Six**

*The Art of Praise and Encouragement*

I. **Welcome**

II. **Review Ground Rules (if needed)/Announcements**

III. **Report on Home Activities**

   - Ask parents about social, emotion and persistence coaching with their child.
   - Ask about buddy calls
   - Reinforce parent participation in reading chapters or listening to CD, practicing, sharing.

IV. **Topic of Day: Effective Praise—"Bringing Out the Best in Your Child"**

   A. Do benefits and barriers exercise regarding praise.
   B. Vignettes: Part 4: 1–15
   C. Buzz—Pair up with another parent and talk about list of behaviors they want to see more of during mealtimes. (see handout) Then write out favorite praise statements.
   D. Practice (social coaching/praising friendship skills):
      - Have one parent act as child and one as parent and practice praise to increase child’s positive social behaviors. Practice sharing positive feelings with child. (e.g., I enjoy spending time with you.)
      - Parents practice using encouraging words to help toddlers who are struggling to learn difficult behaviors (e.g., getting dressed by themselves, eating, trying to ride a tricycle).
   E. Buzz—“Positive Opposite” exercise (if time).
   F. Do “buzz” on self-praise and positive coping thoughts (see brainstorm handout).

**Key Concepts**

- Labeling praise
- “Give to get” principle—for adults and children
- Attending to learning “process,” not only end results
- Modeling self-praise
- Resistance to praise—the difficulties giving and accepting praise
- Promoting positive self-talk
- Using specific encouraging statements versus nonspecific
- Gaining and feeling support through praise
- How to deal with children who reject praise
- Avoiding praising only perfection
- Recognizing social and academic behaviors that need praise
- Building children’s self-esteem through praise and encouragement

V. **Review Home Activities**

   - Summarize key points.
   - Ask them to identify positive behaviors they want increased. (make list)
VI. Parent Evaluation

VII. Closing
LEADER CHECKLIST
Session Six

Topic: Effective Praise and Encouragement

Vignettes: Part 4: 1–15

SITE: __________________________ DATE: __________________________

LEADER NAMES: __________________________ TIME: __________________________

VIGNETTES COVERED: Part 4

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14

15 Summary

(Circle vignettes shown.)

DID I

1. Write the agenda on the board
2. Review parents’ home activities; elicit reactions and experiences (to reading chapter and coaching experiences)
3. Ask about buddy calls
4. Benefits and Barriers to Praise
5. Buzz/Brainstorm behaviors want to see more of and praise statements (use brainstorm handout)
6. Practice social coaching with praise
7. Buzz–difficult toddler behaviors and encouraging statements
8. Buzz–“Positive Opposite” exercise
9. Buzz–self-praise (use handout)
10. Review this week’s home assignment (increase praise)

Subject Track:

YES NO

Handout Pads:
Home Activities for the Week–Effective Praise

Xerox:
Record Sheet: Praise
Examples of Ways to Give Praise and Encouragement & Behaviors to Praise
Piggy Bank handouts (3)
Behavior Record Sheet: Behaviors I Want to See More of!
Brainstorm Sheets - Positive Self Praise
Refrigerator Notes About Praising Your Child
“Positive Opposite” handout

Self-Evaluation
“Gems” of Session—Reminder of things to pursue next session
Agendas and Checklists: Incredible Years® Toddler Program

Outline—Session Seven

Spontaneous Incentives for Toddlers

I. Welcome
II. Announcements
III. Report on Home Activities
   Ask about any difficulties increasing praise statements during the week.
   Review group list of behaviors they want to see more of & how they did at praising these behaviors.
   Discuss praising teachers, partners, in-laws.
   Buzz—positive self-praise (see handout).
IV. Topic of Day: Spontaneous Rewards—“Motivating Your Children”
   A. Buzz spontaneous rewards for toddlers.
   B. Vignettes: Part 5: 1–6
   C. Brainstorm or buzz no-cost and low-cost rewards.
   D. Role Play/Practice—giving a hand stamp for a positive behavior. Talk about toilet training.
   E. Do “buzz” on setting up rewards or pleasure times for parents. (see handout)

Key Concepts
• Shaping behaviors in the direction you want—“small steps”
• Clearly identifying positive behavior
• Rewards are a temporary measure leading to child’s competence
• What will reinforce one child will not necessarily reinforce another
• Importance of reinforcing yourself, teachers, and others
• Value of unexpected and spontaneous rewards
• Recognizing the “first-then” principle
• Designing programs that are realistic and developmentally appropriate
• Encouraging toilet training success

V. Review Home Activities
   In addition to explaining the handouts, encourage parents to praise themselves and others by providing an opportunity for them to do it in class (e.g., a note to teacher could be written in group); or each member could offer praise to another group member; or leader could model praising group and/or self. Give out small rewards for doing home activities.
   Talk about buddy call assignments.

VI. Parent Evaluation

VII. Closing
LEADER CHECKLIST
Session Seven

Topic:  Spontaneous Incentives for Toddlers

Vignettes: Part 5: 1–6

SITE: ___________________________ DATE: ___________________________

LEADER NAMES: ___________________________ TIME: ___________________________

VIGNETTES COVERED: Part 5
1A  1B  1C  2  3A  4  5  6
(Circle vignettes shown.)

DID I

1. Write the agenda on the board
2. Review parents’ home activities; elicit reactions and experiences (to increasing praises and reading chapters)
3. Ask about buddy calls (possibly re-assign)
4. Review behaviors I want to see more of
5. Buzz–positive self-praise (see handout)
6. Buzz–spontaneous or no cost rewards. (see handout)
7. Talk about toilet training
8. Buzz–about rewarding oneself (see handout)
9. Review this week’s home assignment

YES  NO

Handout Pads:
Home Activities for the Week – Motivating Children through Incentives and Rewards

Xerox:
Examples of Behaviors to Praise and Reward
Examples of Teacher Behaviors to Praise
Brainstorm Sheets–Encouraging Positive Self-Statements
Brainstorm Sheet–Reward Yourself
Handout Caring Days Record Sheet: Praise
Refrigerator Notes About Tangible Rewards
Refrigerator Notes About Toilet Training (2)

Self-Evaluation
“Gems” of Session—Reminder of things to pursue next session
Outline—Session Eight
Handling Separations and Reunions with Toddlers

I. Welcome

II. Ground Rules/Announcements

III. Report on Home Activities
Ask parents to share any experiences with praise (of others and self or calling teacher) and of rewarding self for achieving a goal.
Ask about buddy calls.

IV. First Topic of Day: Handling Separations and Reunions
A. Brainstorm benefits of routines and possible barriers.
B. Part 6: Vignettes 1–5
B. Practice routine for saying good bye to toddler at day care when toddler is resisting parent leaving.

VI. Second Topic of Day: Establishing Bedtime Routines
A. Explain about value of predictable routines.
B. Vignettes 6–9
C. Buzz—routine for putting toddler to bed.

Key Concepts
- Establishing clear and predictable routines for separating from children
- Establishing routines for greeting children after being away from them
- Understanding object and person permanence
- Providing adequate monitoring at all times
- Understanding how peek-a-boo games help children
- Establishing predictable routines for bedtime
- Understanding how to help children feel safe and secure in their relationship with parents

VII. Review Home Activities
Summarize key points (Refrigerator Notes).
In addition to explaining the handouts, remind them to bring back the routines handout as well as the toddler-proofing handout.

VIII. Parent Evaluation

IX. Closing
**LEADER CHECKLIST**

**Session Eight**

**Topic:** Handling Separations and Reunions  

**Vignettes:** Part 6: 1–9

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VIGNETTES COVERED: Part 6</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
<th>9</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

(Circle vignettes shown.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DID I</th>
<th>YES</th>
<th>NO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Write the agenda on the board</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Review parents’ home activities; elicit reactions and experiences (to incentive systems, homework, and reading)</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Ask about positive note to teacher (if not done, do in group)</td>
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<td>4. Brainstorm benefits and barriers to routines (do on board or flip chart)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Practice predictable routine for saying good bye to toddler at day care</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Practice routine for greeting children</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Buzz bed time routine</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Ask about buddy calls</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Talk about toddler safety proofing homework</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Review this week’s home assignment</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Handout Pads:**

Home Activities for the Week—Handling Separations and Reunions

**Xerox:**

Family Routines (3)  
Refrigerator Notes: Handling Separations and Reunions  
Refrigerator Notes: Ensuring Toddler’s Safety Checklist (2)  
Refrigerator Notes: Establishing Healthy Sleep Habits

**Self-Evaluation**

“Gems” of Session—Reminder of things to pursue next session
Outline—Session Nine

Positive Discipline—Effective Limit Setting

I. Welcome

II. Ground Rules/Announcements

III. Report on Home Activities
   Buzz bedtime or morning routines.
   Ask about buddy calls.

IV. First Topic of Day: Clear Limit Setting—“The Importance of Being Clear, Predictable and Positive”
   A. Buzz—toddler-proofing checklist and brainstorm difficulties.
   B. Brainstorm benefits of limit setting and possible barriers.
   C. Vignettes: Part 7: 1–13
   D. Buzz “first-then” and “when-then” commands.

   Key Concepts
   • Understanding how to toddler-proof a home
   • Reduce number of commands to only necessary commands
   • Learning about the importance of distractions and redirections
   • Understanding the value of giving children some choice
   • Politeness principle and modeling respect
   • Commands should be clear, brief, respectful, and action oriented
   • “When-then” commands offer child a choice
   • Distractible children need warnings and reminders

V. Review Home Activities
   In addition to explaining the handouts, remind them to bring back household rules and to share with buddy when they make their call.

VI. Parent Evaluation

VII. Closing
LEADER CHECKLIST
Session Nine

Topic: Positive Discipline–Effective Limit Setting

Vignettes: Part 7: 1-13

SITE: ___________________________________ DATE: _________________________

LEADER NAMES: _________________________ TIME: _________________________

VIGNETTES COVERED: Part 7
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13
(Circle vignettes shown.)

DID I YES NO
1. Write the agenda on the board __________ __________
2. Review parents’ home activities; elicit reactions and experiences (to routines) __________ __________
3. Buzz–morning or bedtime routines __________ __________
4. Brainstorm benefits and barriers to limit setting (do on board or flip chart) __________ __________
5. Buzz–toddler-proofing checklist __________ __________
6. Buzz–“First-Then” and “When-Then” commands __________ __________
7. Buzz–Times parents could use distractions or redirections __________ __________
8. Ask about buddy calls __________ __________
9. Review this week’s home assignment __________ __________

Handout Pads:
Home Activities for the Week – Effective Limit Setting (handout A)

Xerox:
Record Sheet: Commands
Brainstorm Sheet–Benefits and Barriers
Refrigerator Notes About Limit Setting

Self-Evaluation
“Gems” of Session—Reminder of things to pursue next session
Outline—Session Ten

Positive Discipline—Effective Limit Setting, continued

I. Welcome

II. Ground Rules/Announcements

III. Report on Home Activities

- Buzz—ways parents used distractions, redirections and choices in prior week.
- Buzz—toddler-proofing checklist, following up on actions taken.

IV. First Topic of Day: Clear Limit Setting—“The Importance of Being Clear, Predictable and Positive”

A. Vignettes: Part 7: 14–25
B. Buzz—household rules (e.g., wash hands before dinner).
C. Buzz—rewriting unclear and negative commands (see handout).
D. Buzz—how to give fewer “no’s.”
E. Brainstorm how parents monitor where children are, with whom and what they are doing (monitoring principle).
F. Buzz—share toddler safety proofing checklist and brainstorm difficulties.

Key Concepts
- Reduce number of commands to only necessary commands
- Actions speak louder than words
- Avoiding negative and question commands
- Politeness principle and modeling respect
- Clear and predictable household rules offer children safety and reduce misbehaviors
- “Monitoring Principle”: Understanding the importance of constant monitoring & supervision for toddlers
- All children will test rules—don’t take it personally
- Commands should be clear, brief, respectful, and action oriented
- Children need transition time when possible
- Learning to set limits around amount of TV watched

V. Review Home Activities

In addition to explaining the handouts, remind them to bring back household rules and to share with buddy when they make their call.

VI. Parent Evaluation

VII. Closing
LEADER CHECKLIST
Session Ten

Topic: Positive Discipline-Effective Limit Setting, continued

Vignettes: Part 7: 14-25

SITE: __________________________________ DATE: ______________________

LEADER NAMES: ____________________ TIME: ______________________

VIGNETTES COVERED: Part 7
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25
(Circle vignettes shown.)

DID I YES NO
1. Write the agenda on the board ________ ________
2. Review parents’ home activities; elicit reactions and experiences (to use of redirection, distractions and limiting commands) ________ ________
3. Buzz–household rules and limits for TV watching ________ ________
4. Buzz–to practice rewriting negative commands/requests ________ ________
5. Buzz–how to give fewer “no’s” ________ ________
6. Buzz–monitoring exercise
7. Review this week’s home assignment ________ ________

Handout Pads:
Home Activities for the Week–Effective Limit Setting (handout B)

Xerox:
Record Sheet: Commands/Requests
Brainstorm Rewrite Ineffective Commands
Household Rules (2)

Self-Evaluation
“Gems” of Session—Reminder of things to pursue next session
I. Welcome

II. Ground Rules

III. Report on Home Activities

Ask parents to report on examples of giving positive, clear commands and reducing negative commands.

Review parents’ lists of household rules.

Ask about buddy calls.

IV. Topic of Day: Ignoring

A. Buzz–Make a list of behaviors they want to see less of. From the list, establish the “positive opposite” behavior they can reinforce with attention and praise. (see handout)

B. Vignettes: Positive Discipline Part 8: Vignettes 1–7

C. Buzz–Behaviors from list want to “see less of” they can ignore.

D. Practice–One parent plays whining child and one parent demonstrates ignoring.

E. Practice–Positive, coping thoughts to use when ignoring misbehavior.

Key Concepts:

- Understanding the importance of distractions and redirections coupled with ignore
- Maintaining self-control and using calm-down strategies
- Repeated learning trials–negative behavior is a signal child needs some new learning
- Using ignore technique consistently and appropriately
- Explain vending machine example of behavior which continues if there is some “pay off”
- Using ignore for selected behaviors such as whining, tantrums, arguing

F. Role Play/Practice

Do role play in which parent ignores child’s inappropriate behavior.

Do some problem-solving to select a behavior to ignore.

V. Review Home Activities

Explain handouts.

VI. Parent Evaluation

VII. Closing
LEADER CHECKLIST
Session Eleven

Topic: Positive Discipline-Handling Misbehavior
Vignettes: Part 8: 1-7

SITE: _________________________ DATE: _________________
LEADER NAMES: _________________________ TIME: _________________

VIGNETTES COVERED: Part 8
1 2 3 4 5 6 7
(Circle vignettes shown.)

DID I YES NO
1. Write the agenda on the board _______ _______
2. Review parents’ home activities; elicit reactions and experiences _______ _______
3. Discuss goals for discipline _______ _______
4. Buzz—“positive opposite” exercise _______ _______
5. Buzz—behaviors from list they want to see less of and which ones can be ignored _______ _______
6. Practice ignoring whining _______ _______
7. Practice using positive coping thoughts _______ _______
8. Ask about buddy calls _______ _______
9. Review this week’s home assignment _______ _______

Handout Pads:
- Home Activities for the Week–Avoiding and Ignoring Misbehavior

Xerox:
- Record Sheet: Ignore and Praise
- Brainstorm–Behaviors I will Ignore
- Brainstorm–Ways to Stay Calm
- Using Differential Attention
- Refrigerator Notes About Ignoring
- Refrigerator Notes About Helping Toddlers Feel Loved and Secure
- “Positive Opposite” handout
- Learning Self-Control handouts (6)

Self-Evaluation
- “Gems” of Session—Reminder of things to pursue next session
Incredible Years® Toddlers Program

Outline—Session Twelve
Positive Discipline—Handling Misbehavior, Continued

I. Welcome
II. Ground Rules
III. Report on Home Activities
   Find out group experiences with ignoring misbehavior.
IV. Topic of Day: Teaching Children to Calm Down
   A. Discussion—Helping children learn to self-regulate.
   B. Vignettes: Handling Misbehavior 8–14
   C. Practice using puppets to teach children to calm down.
   D. Buzz—Strategies to cope with biting behavior.
   E. Buzz—Using differential attention for reducing behavior.
   F. Buzz—Review strategies for decreasing misbehavior (see handout).
   G. Buzz—Ways to find support.

Key Concepts:
- Importance of following up on commands with a consequence
- Avoiding power struggles that reinforce misbehavior
- Do the positive first — praise compliance
- Maintain self-control
- Knowing how to help toddlers learn to calm down
- Knowing how to respond when toddlers bite or hit
- Understanding the importance of finding parent support
- Continuing to strengthen prosocial behaviors

V. Review Home Activities
   Encourage continuing mutual support with their buddies.

VI. Parent Evaluation

VII. Closing
LEADER CHECKLIST
Session Twelve

Topic: Positive Discipline–Handling Misbehavior

Vignettes: Part 8: 8-14

SITE: ________________________________ DATE: ________________________________

LEADER NAMES: ____________________________ TIME: ________________________________

VIGNETTES COVERED: Part 8
8 9 10 11 12 13 14
(Circle vignettes shown.)

DID I YES NO
1. Write the agenda on the board
2. Review parents’ home activities; elicit reactions and experiences (to ignoring)
3. Practice using puppets to teach children about calming down
4. Buzz–strategies to use when children bite or hit
5. Buzz–responding to children who resist getting dressed
6. Buzz–review strategies to reduce misbehavior (see handout)
9. Review this week’s home assignment
10. Plan Celebration

Handout Pads:
Home Activities for the Week–Helping Children to Calm Down

Xerox:
Tiny Turtle’s Anger Steps
Teaching Calm Down Strategies
Brainstorm Positive Self Talk
Refrigerator Notes About Biting and Hitting
Refrigerator Notes About Handling Tantrum Storms
Parents Working Like Detectives: See What You’ve Learned (2)
Problem-Solving Worksheet (2)

Self-Evaluation
“Gems” of Session—Reminder of things to pursue next session
Outline—Session Thirteen
Review and Celebration

I. Welcome

II. Report on Home Activities

III. Topic of Day: Review
   A. Review—Parents Thinking Like Detectives handout.
   B. Talk about what parents have learned.
   C. Brainstorm how they can continue to get support.

   Key Concepts:
   • Maintain self-control
   • Repeated learning trials—negative behavior is a signal child needs some new learning
   • “Priming the pump” with positive self-talk
   • Getting support from others
   • Problem-solving steps when misbehavior occurs

IV. Celebration
   Special food.
   Certificates are given out.
   Each parent is acknowledged in some unique way for their contribution to the group’s learning.

V. Parent Evaluation

VI. Closing
LEADER CHECKLIST
Session Thirteen

Topic: Review and Celebration

SITE: ___________________________ DATE: ___________________________

LEADER NAMES: ___________________________ TIME: ___________________________

VIGNETTES COVERED:

DID I

1. Write the agenda on the board

2. Review parents’ home activities; elicit reactions and experiences

3. Review–Parents Thinking Like Detectives checklist

4. Brainstorm ways to continue getting support

5. Review problem solving steps to future problems

6. Discuss group ending (feelings about group)

7. Give out certificates

YES  NO

Xerox:
Congratulations handout
Certificate of Completion (See Appendix)

Self-Evaluation
“Gems” of Session—Reminder of things to pursue next session