Family Routine Guide Snapshots

Problem: Your child loves to run outside and leaves the play area boundaries.



Directions: Choose one strategy from each column to try (2 strategies total).

Before

How can I prevent challenging behavior?

- Before going outside, state when your child can run (e.g., the first 10 minutes of play) and where your child can run by physically showing your child the boundaries.
- Teach your child that staying "safe" is to stay inside the boundary and to be "unsafe" is to leave the boundary.
- Before going outside, clearly state outside play expectations/what's allowed when playing outside.
- Provide structured activities that involve active play and running.
- Help your child make a choice of activities.

During

What can I do when challenging behavior occurs?

- Redirect the child to other activities or to the safe space for running.
- Remind your child of "outside" boundaries.
- Validate your child's feelings ("I see you're angry, but you can't leave from the playground. Let me help you find a place to run.")
- Calmly but firmly remind your child that running out of area is "unsafe" and prompt your child to sit or stand near you until ready to be "safe."

*If challenging behavior continues after trying one of the above strategies, provide a clear direction (e.g., walk to me) and state the consequence if the direction isn't followed.
*If this is used, be sure to follow through on the consequence if the clear direction is not followed.

*Running away is dangerous, <u>ignoring</u> is <u>not</u> <u>recommended</u>.

Adapted for Team Tennessee/Pyramid Model State Partnership by Vorhaus, E. (2012) Nashville, Tennessee: Tennessee Voices for Children from: Lentini, R., Vaughn, B. J., Fox, L., & Kwang-Sun Blair (2009). Creating teaching tools for young children with challenging behavior (3rd edition). Tampa, Florida: University of South Florida.



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