

Hidden Sparks Without Walls Parent Connection

Hidden Sparks Without Walls Parent Connection is a series of courses designed to bring together educational professionals and parents in order to improve the quality of the educational experience for all students, including those who struggle.

We hope that the information provided in these courses is helpful, however every child, family, and teacher is different and the strategies and techniques discussed in the seminars do not necessarily apply to every situation.

Hidden Sparks Without Walls Parent Connection does not, in any way, substitute for personal professional assistance or guidance delivered by an educational or other professional dedicated to assisting your child or family.

Hidden Sparks Without Walls, and the Hidden Sparks program in general, does not offer evaluation, recommendation, or consultation services to individual students or families.



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About Hidden Sparks

Hidden Sparks is a non-profit whose purpose is to help children with learning differences reach their full potential in school and life. Hidden Sparks develops and supports professional development programs for Jewish day schools to help increase understanding and support for teaching to diverse learners.

Guided by a philosophy that helping schools meet the needs of children with learning and behavioral differences will ultimately benefit all students, Hidden Sparks' programs combine professional development in learning and positive behavioral support, guided classroom observation and one on one coaching. The Hidden Sparks model and program is currently in 23 Jewish Day Schools/Yeshivot in New York and with the support of a Covenant Foundation grant, in 3 schools in Baltimore, through a partnership with SHEMESH and in 2 schools in Chicago through a partnership with REACH.

More than 20 schools have received Hidden Sparks services through the No Child Left Behind program.



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Hidden Sparks Programs

External Coach Program (ECP)

The Hidden Sparks External Coach Program offers school-based training, coaching, and mentoring in understanding and teaching to diverse learners.

Internal Coach Program (ICP)

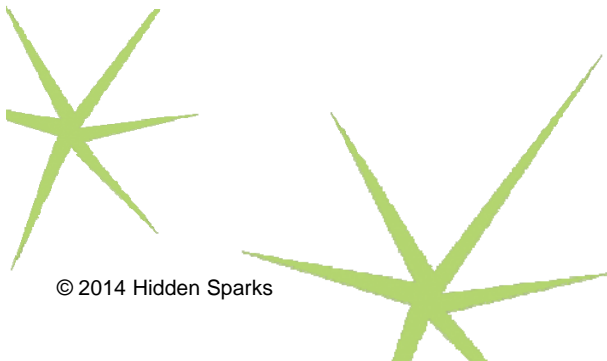
The Hidden Sparks Internal Coach Program trains a member of the school faculty to become a resident expert in diverse learning styles.

Hidden Sparks Without Walls (HSWOW)

The Hidden Sparks Without Walls program makes available short-term classes on differentiated learning to teachers in Jewish day schools and yeshivas across North America. The WOW design, which combines audio and online content, but does not rely exclusively on access to a computer, allows the program to be used by a range of teachers, including those who do not have computers in their homes.

No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Programs

Hidden Sparks offers both workshops and coaching services to New York City non-public schools as part of the No Child Left Behind program. Eligible schools may use their Title funding to access these services.



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Sibling Sniping, Bedtime Battles, Homework Hassles...Are We Having Fun Yet?

With Joanna Faber

January 13, 2014

Our Guest:



Joanna Faber is an award-winning teacher who has taught reading, math and science in a NYC public school in West Harlem for over ten years.

She is also the daughter of Adele Faber, co-author of the best-selling books *“How to talk so Kids Will Listen and Listen So Kids Will Talk,”* and *“Siblings Without Rivalry.”*

She contributed heavily to *“How to talk So Kids Can Learn, at Home and in School”* with her frontline experience in the classroom. She recently contributed a new afterword titled The Next Generation to the 30th anniversary edition of *How To Talk So Kids Will Listen*.

She lectures on communication skills around the country, and gives parenting workshops.

Joanna lives in Putnam Valley, NY with her husband, three teenagers, dogs, cats and an assortment of chickens.

Overview of the Session

- Growing up with a “parenting expert”
- Helping children cope with strong feelings
- Strategies for engaging cooperation
- Alternatives to punishment
- Final thoughts
- Q & A



Session Goals:

Participants will come away with new skills they can use immediately to make life with children more joyful and less stressful!

- Methods to help defuse anger and frustration
- Methods to engage cooperation without the use of threats or bribes
- An approach to conflict that is solution oriented and avoids the use of punishment





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Why is Mom yelling?



In the trenches. Sleep? What's that?



WAYS TO ACCEPT FEELINGS

#1 Put them into words

You sound really *angry* with your brother!

What a *disappointment*!
You were looking forward to that trip.

Thunder can be *scary*. It's so loud.

It's *frustrating* to have to wait, when you want to go right now!

WAYS TO ACCEPT FEELINGS

#2 Write a list



Shopping list


1. Peanut butter
2. Granola bars
3. Carrots



Birthday Wish List

1. Star Wars Lego guy
2. Roller skates

Things that make me mad about the Baby

- 
1. Grabs my stuff
 2. Smelly
 3. Cries too much

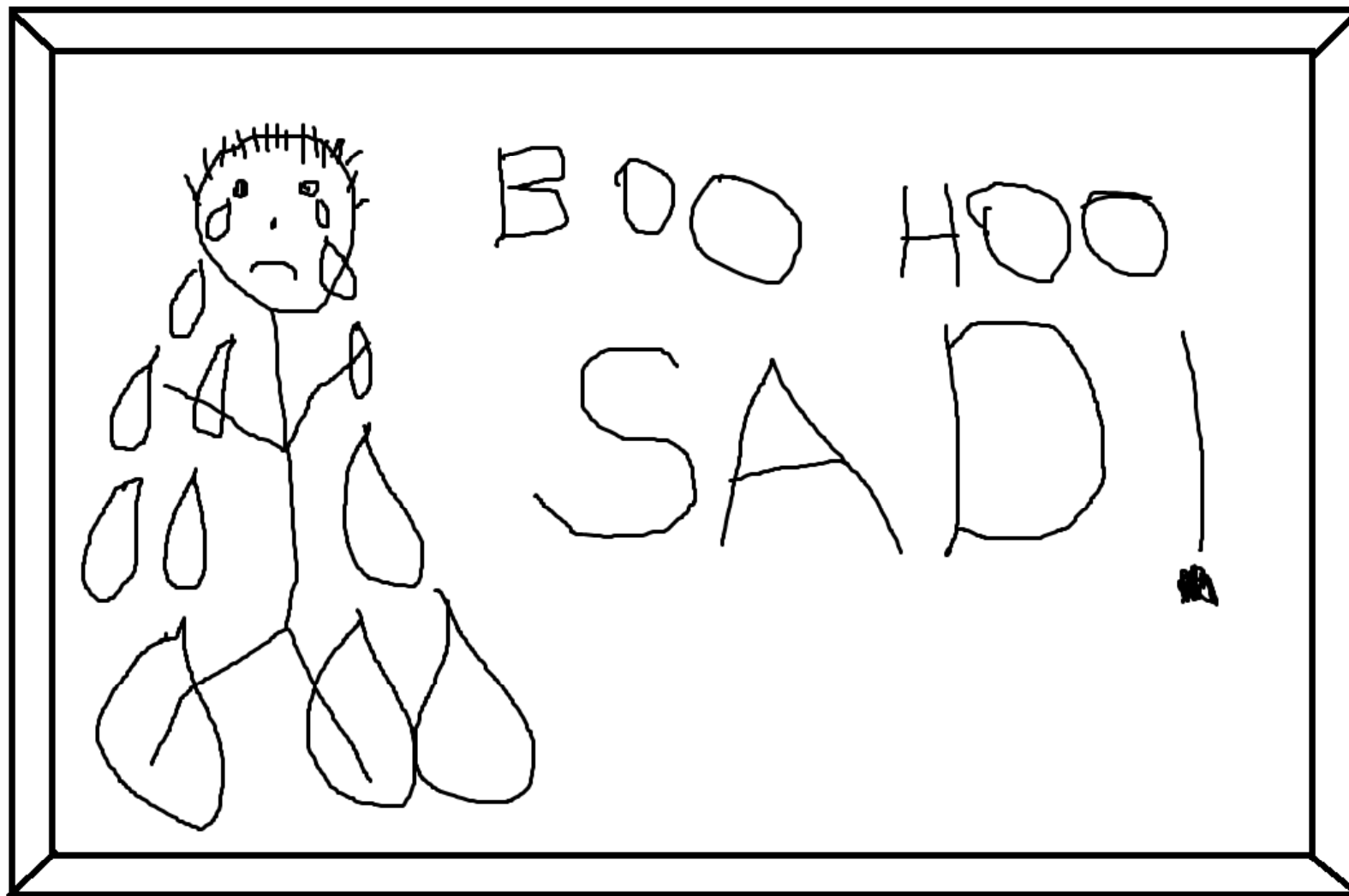


Things I Like about the Baby

1. Laughs at my faces
2. Makes good spit bubbles

WAYS TO ACCEPT FEELINGS

#3 Use Art



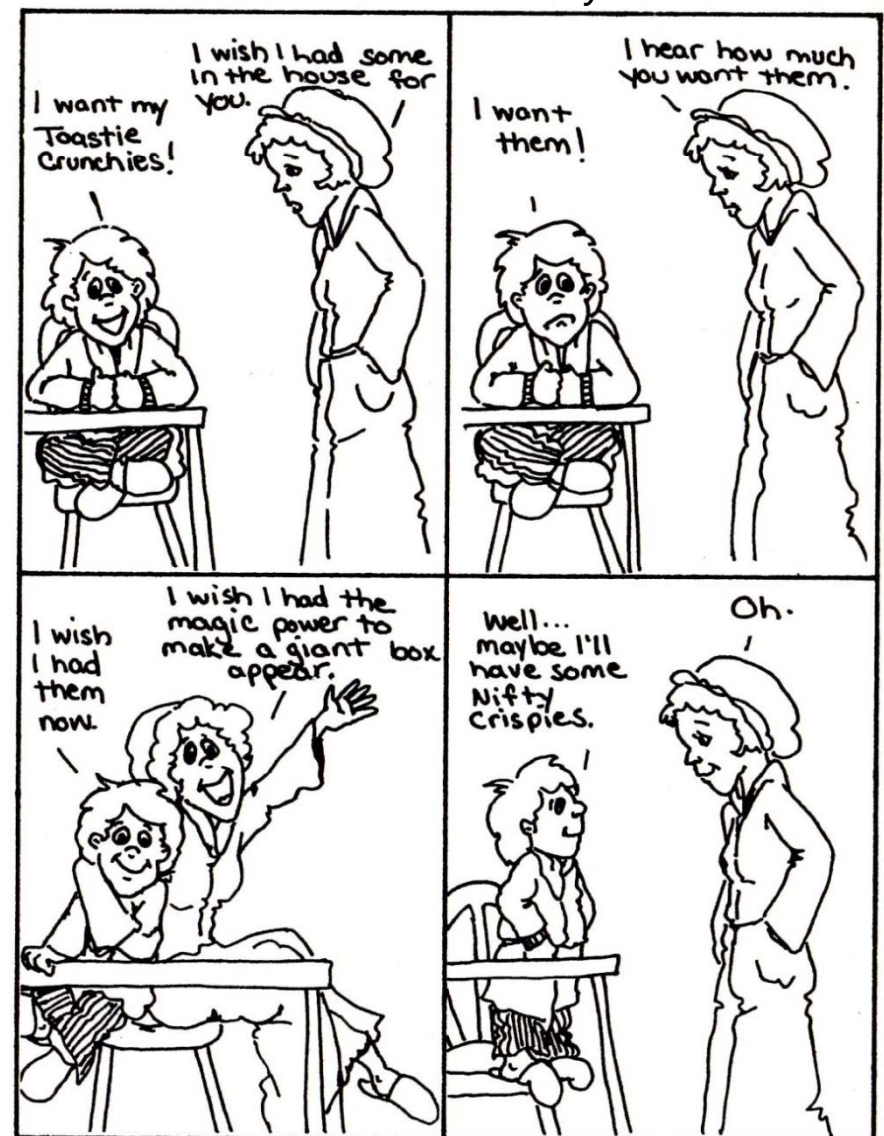
WAYS TO ACCEPT FEELINGS

#4 Give in fantasy what you cannot give in reality

Instead of explanation and logic,



Give wishes in fantasy



Giving In Fantasy



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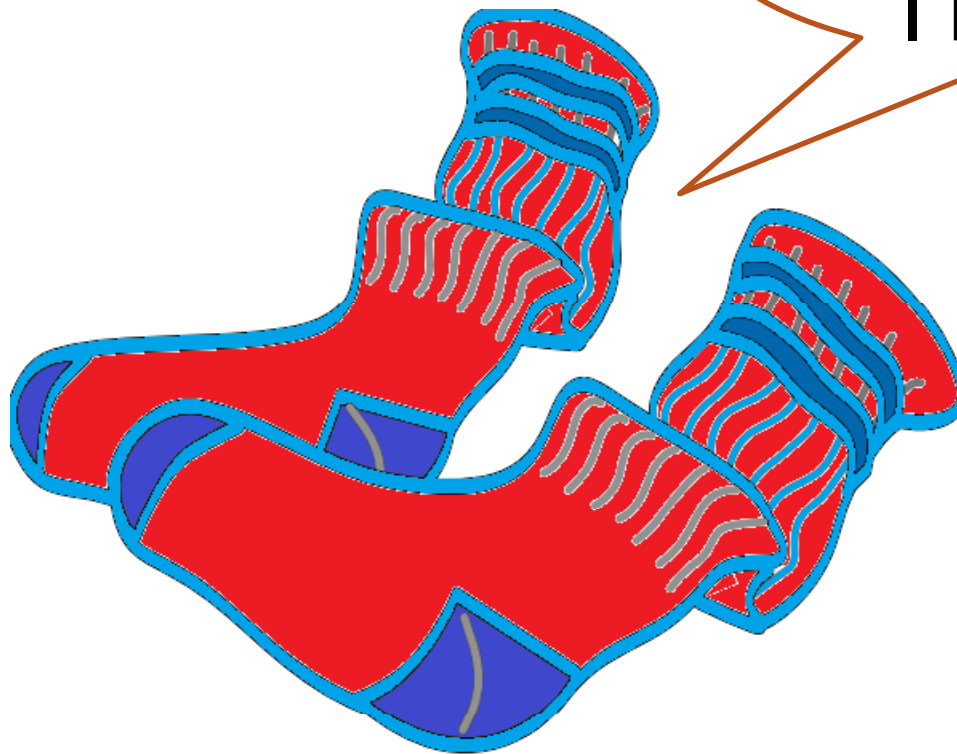
A threat can be an irresistible challenge!



If you ***THROW ROCKS ONE MORE TIME***
I'm taking you straight home!

WAYS TO ENGAGE COOPERATION

#1 Be Playful (make inanimate objects talk)



I feel empty.
I need feet!



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WAYS TO ENGAGE COOPERATION

#2 Give a choice instead of a command



Bath Appointment Card

Please check one:

- ☐ 6:00pm
- ☐ 6:05pm (bubble special)
- ☐ 6:10pm

- Toys or bubbles?
- Walk to tub or skip?
- Feet first or head first?
- Eyes open or closed?
- Hop in like a kangaroo or slither in like a snake?
- Long bath or super short bath?

WAYS TO ENGAGE COOPERATION

#3 Give a challenge instead of a threat

“Can you hop to the car in 10 seconds? Ready...set... GO!”



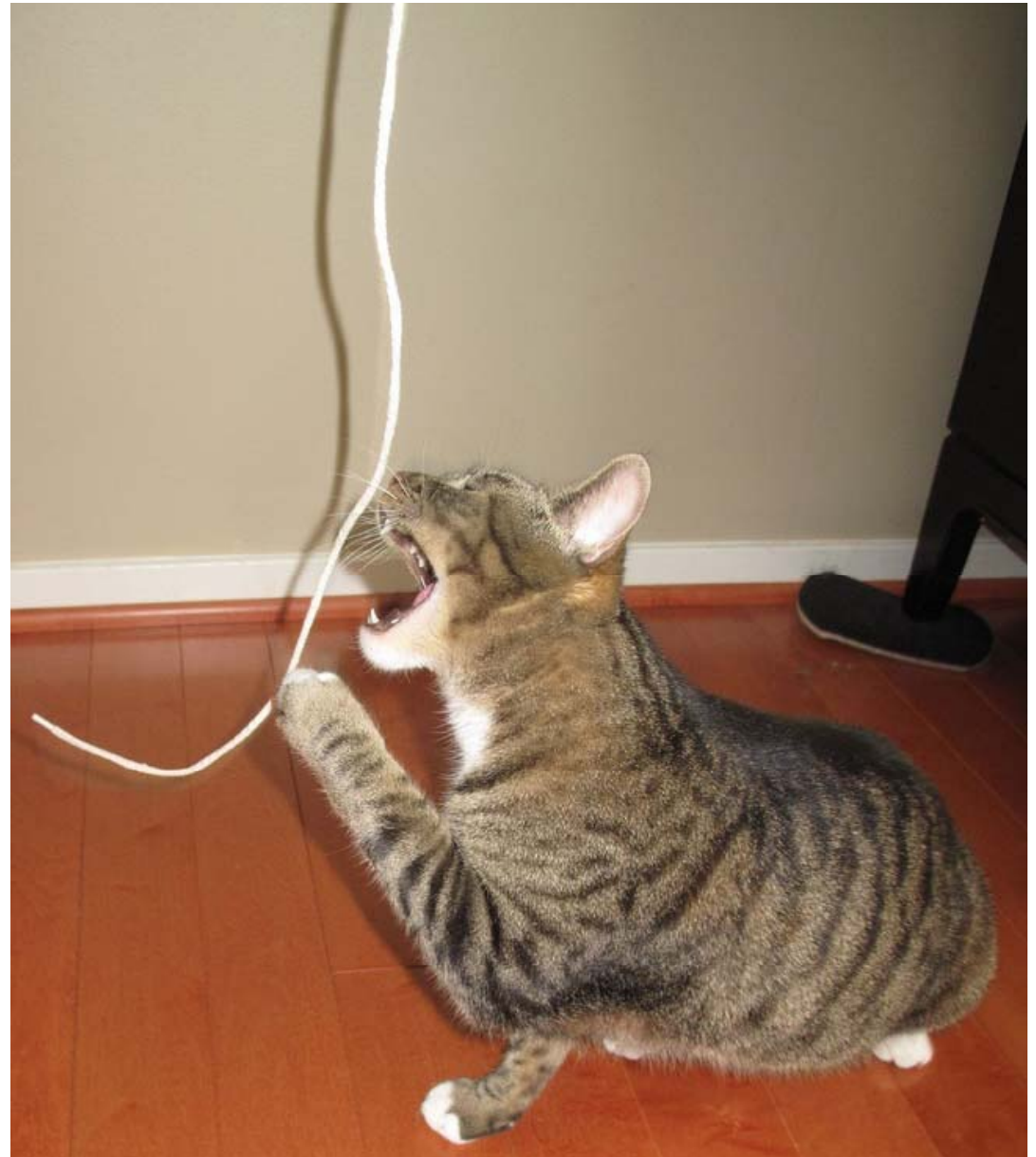
WAYS TO ENGAGE COOPERATION

#4 Give information without insult

“Cats don’t like to be grabbed or chased. It scares them.

They do sometimes like to play with string.

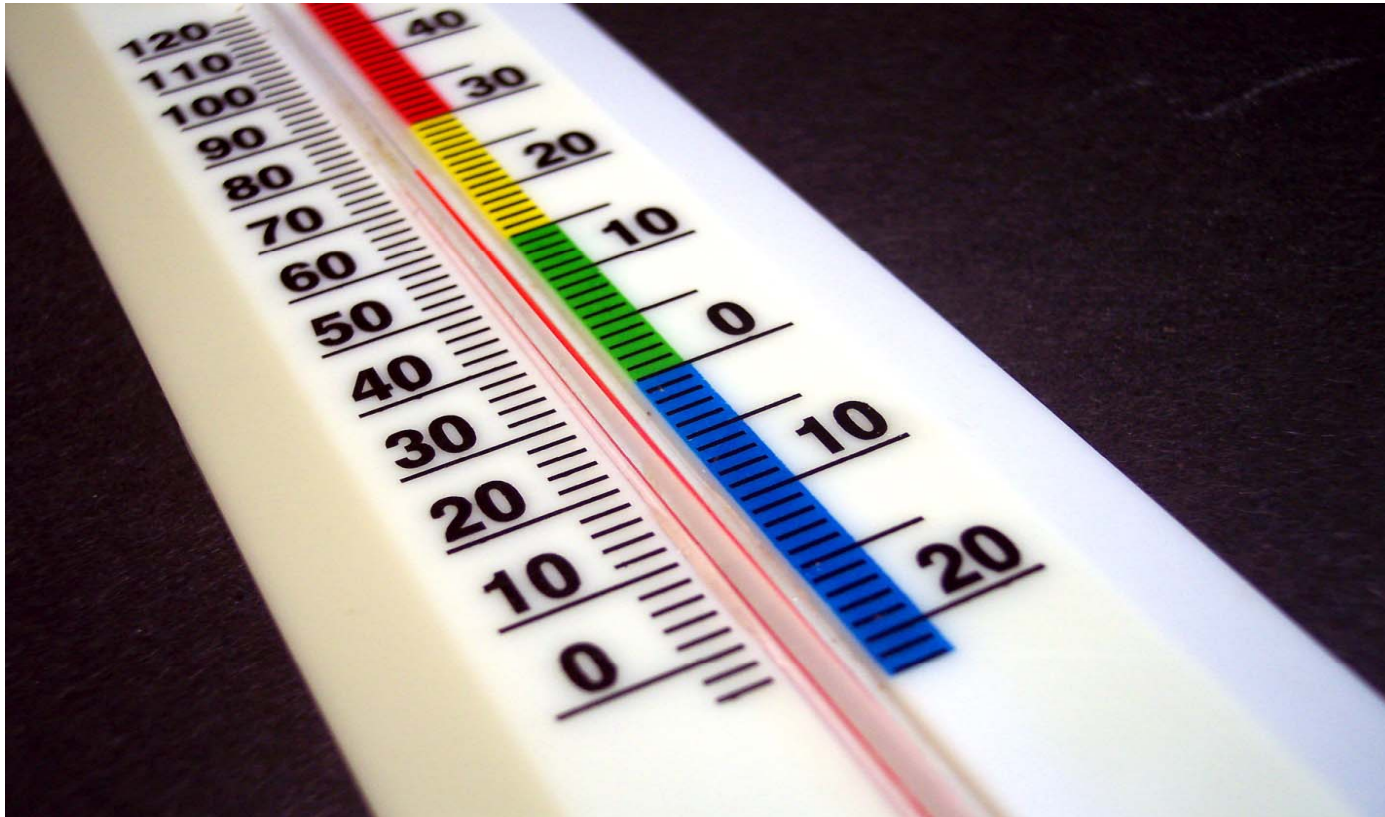
Let’s look for some string!”



WAYS TO ENGAGE COOPERATION

#5 Put the child in charge

“Hmm, the line is on yellow. That means we don’t need coats today!”



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STEPS FOR PROBLEM SOLVING

- 1. Acknowledge feelings (take your time with this!)**
- 2. State problem (Be brief!)**
- 3. Brainstorm (Write it down)**
- 4. Choose the solutions you both like.**



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Problem Solving

IDEAS

1. Mom will give a friendly reminder
2. Dan will use carpet cleaner
3. Dan can wear a diaper
4. The little green man will say,
"Pee pee in the pot!"



Problem Solving

(You might start with some outrageous suggestions to make your child smile.*)

IDEAS

- 1) Lock Gavin up in the dog crate!
- 2) ???
- 3) Work in my room.
- 4) Lock myself in the bathroom to work.
- 5) Gavin play outside.
- 6) Gavin watch Peter Pan video.



**No children or animals were hurt in the creation of this photo!*

Story time – take one



Story time – take two

Peaceful for now!



Methods *Matter*

Loving methods of discipline result in loving relationships



THIS



NOT THIS!



Questions

1. What do you do when all of that is happening at the same time?! The little one has to go to bed (but she's procrastinating like a pro) while the big kids should be doing homework but they are fighting with each other instead! Evenings used to be much smoother, but it feels as though all of a sudden we have all three of these issues! (my kids are turning 4, 7 and 9)
2. Sibling rivalry- my kids complain that everything their siblings do is "annoying them" (like when their sibling sings, dances, eats, burps etc.) and then they get upset and start fighting or name calling. Help please!
3. When siblings have had a verbal or physical fight, is it necessary for the parent to try and get to the bottom of who started it and how?

Also: How can a parent resolve a fight amongst their children without one feeling you're favoring the one who is in the right?



Questions

4. When it is usually the same child who ends up crying as a result of getting hurt physically or verbally, what is the best way to deal with the perpetrator - without that child feeling he is always being picked on, especially when the details of the fight are unclear, and that perhaps the alleged 'perpetrator' was actually also hurt during the fight, but is more of a 'toughie' and less liable to break down in tears?

Also: What is a good consequence for hurting a sibling?

Also: Is saying 'I'm sorry' necessary? Many times kids say it and don't mean it or say it in a teasing voice so it is more hurtful.

5. How can you teach children to feel for others? If they are not naturally sensitive to each other's feelings... Can it be taught?

Also: How can u stop the teasing when the teaser thinks it is funny... He's "Only joking"??

6. How to effectively stop a 'there-and-back' escalating argument between two siblings. For example, "You did it", "No I didn't", "Yes you did", etc.

7. Will the fighting now (as young kids) affect their relationships later (as adults) ?

Upcoming Hidden Sparks Without Walls Parent Connection Sessions

Tuesday, February 4, 2014	<i>Promoting Social Skills and Social Growth</i> With Dr. Rona Novick
Wednesday, March 5, 2014	<i>What's Behind Children's Challenging Behaviors and What Can We Do to Help?</i> With Claire Wurtzel

For more information visit: www.hidden-sparks.org



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Hidden Sparks in schools

The Hidden Sparks coaching program is currently in 32 Jewish day schools/yeshivot in the New York tri-state area, Baltimore and Chicago.

Since inception, Hidden Sparks has provided school-based coaching to 16 schools through its External Coach Program and has provided training and mentoring to 80 Internal Coaches from 45 Internal Coach Program participating schools.

Over 3,700 teachers have participated in Hidden Sparks programs. Of that number, more than 1,200 teachers have benefitted from Hidden Sparks training, impacting an estimated 12,000 students.

**If you are interested in bringing Hidden Sparks
to your school or city, please contact us at:
212-767-7707 or news@hiddensparks.org**



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