

Listening and De-escalation Techniques to Use with Teens

While your teen is starting to form his own opinions, he is also starting to gain some independence from you. However, trying to navigate your teen in the right direction can be hard when he wants to yell at you or completely shut you out of his life.

1. Remain calm

It shows you are in control and you can think most clearly when you are calm. You child is learning from your behavior. Remember the quote, "*Do what I say, not what I do?*" Well, it does not work. In reality, actions speak louder than words. Your teen is going to remember and learn from those actions. If you are trying to talk with your teen and either of you are not calm, take a break. You can even come up with a code word that either of you can say when the argument escalates. Then go away to a separate place (ex. Your teen goes to his room and you go to the living room) so you can both calm down. Next, return to talk. If you become upset again, then repeat!

2. Calming techniques

It is important to teach your child how to calm down when they become upset, so it doesn't result in him "exploding" later. Have your teen make a list of things he can do when he becomes angry to help him calm down. While you are at it, come up with a list for yourself too! Examples include: writing, drawing, doing push-ups, playing music, deep breathing, praying, talking to a friend or trusted source, singing, and journaling. While you are on your break, practice your calming techniques.

3. Talk to your teen

As parents, it is our job to help our teen solve his problems. Try talking to your teen and helping him problem solve before it turns into an argument. You can do this by asking your teen how he feels about the situation (discuss what his beliefs and values are, how he can apply his beliefs to solving his problems, how he thinks he would solve the situation and how he thinks you would solve the situation).

(cont.)

4. Listen to your teen

If you want him to listen to you, then you need to listen to him too. Remember, he is learning by what you do. Try practicing these active listening techniques to show him you are listening:

- 1. Stop what you are doing to give him your undivided attention (no cell phone, no TV, no sibling interruptions, and if possible, no cleaning, etc.)
- 2. Show him you are listening by nodding your head, using facial expressions, making eye contact, etc.
- 3. If you are not sure what he meant, then clarify by asking him, "Is what you are saying 'ABC'?"
- 4. Ask questions or make statements back to show you are interested in the conversation.
- 5. Be aware of your own biases. You don't want to jump to conclusions. So remember to listen to what your teen is saying first. After your teen is finished, think about your response thoroughly before you state your viewpoint.

5. Praise appropriate behavior

Point out when your teen is exhibiting great behavior! Building your teen's self-esteem can actually lessen your teen's outbursts. Anger is often driven by feeling insecure and lack of control. Help your teen by spending time with him, teaching him a skill, enjoying a hobby, or just talking.

If you do have an argument, remember to remain calm, discuss the issue with your child (never argue in front of others because siblings can pick up on the behavior and it can give your child power in the situation), and try to problem solve together. If your child needs discipline, wait until you are calm to enforce it. Remember change will not happen overnight. It is important for you to practice these tips and model these behaviors to your teen. De-escalation Strategies

Act calm even if you're not.

Give a choice.

Use humor to lighten the mood.

Ask them to draw a picture.

Say, "I see where you are coming from."

Talk about something they like.

Try to understand their perspective.

Let the person talk without interrupting.

Avoid needing to get the last word.

Remind them they are not in trouble.

Say, "I'm here for you."

Ignore the behavior if you can.

Say, "What would help you right now?"

Offer to change something you are doing.

Let them take a walk or get a drink.

PROCTOR PARENTS NEEDED

We are always in search of more proctor parents (individuals, couples, and families) throughout various parts of the Salt Lake Valley, Davis County and Tooele. We are offering the following referral incentive:

If you refer someone and they come in for the initial interview you will receive \$25.00.

If they complete the initial licensing process, and are approved, you will receive an additional \$25.00.

After they have remained with CBTS for three months (while taking placements) you will receive a \$300.00 bonus check. That's an extra \$350.00 per referral!

Please have them contact Lori to get the process started!





CBTS 715 East 3900 South #206 SLC UT 84107 (801) 268-4044 Fax (801) 263-0926 www.cbtsutah.com

Lori Nadeau Owner Mobile: 801-634-5379 <u>cbts@xmission.com</u>

Ann Eyre Specialist Mobile: 801-663-1067 <u>ameyre@xmission.com</u>

Brittani Neto, LCSW Clinical Supervisor 801-268-4044

Fun and easy Halloween craft idea - - paint wooden spoons (can purchase at the Dollar Store)

FREE OCTOBER EVENTS

October 3	Teen Time Oktoberfest Enjoy celebration of Germa	Tooele Library n culture, games, treats	128 W. Vine St.	4:00-6:00 p.m.
October 5	Herriman Community Heal 7:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	th & Wellness Fair	5373 Main Street ormation booths, mov	Herriman vie
October 5	SLC Performance Art Festiv 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.		210 E. 400 al & international artis	
October 12	Glendale Heritage & Apple 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Festival Gleno	dale Park 137.	5 W. 1700 So.
October 12	Tad Calcara & New Deal Sw 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	ving Virid	ian Center 803	0 So. 1825 W.
October 15	Herriman Howl Activities, inflatables, enterta	5335 West Main ainment, haunted house	6:00 – 8:00 e, spook alley	p.m.
October 19	W.J. Symphony Fall Concer 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.	rt Virid	ian Center 803	0 So. 1825 W.
October 20	"Poltergeist" Halloween Mo 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. popcorn	vie Virid: , games, activities, givea	ways WA A witch All tres	0 So. 1825 W. RNING AND
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MORE FREE OCTOBER EVENTS

October 21	"Ghostbusters" Halloween Mov	ie Viridian Center	8030 So. 1825 W.		
	7:00 – 9:00 p.m. popcorn, games, activities, giveaways				
October 22	Draper Haunted Hollow	12500 So. 550 W.	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.		
	Carnival games, pumpkin patch, entertainment for all ages				
October 25	Halloween Celebration S	LC Library 210 E. 400 Se	b. 1:00-4:00 p.m.		
	Trick-or-treating, activities, prizes				
October 26	Monster Block Party Galliv	an Center 239 So. Main	11:00 a.m 3:00 p.m.		
	Trick-or-treating, costume contest, arts & crafts, music, dance performances, pumpkin				
	drop				
October 26	South Davis Spooktacular	550 No. 200 W.	5:30 - 8:30 p.m.		
	Carnival games, crafts, trick-or-treating alley				
October 26	Pumpkin Palooza	Viridian Center	8030 So. 1825 W.		
	11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Everything pumpkin, activities, entertainment				







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More Than Horror.



ines 10-30-12 10 Crabby Road You know what's really scary? Some people already have their Christmas 8 shopping done. Horrifying, isn't it? /ww.facebook.com/maxine Inco

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Where candy corn comes from