

CHILD/CHILD PROBLEMS

What happened? What's the matter? (*asks for child's view of the problem*)

What happened BEFORE (you hit him)? (*a nonthreatening way of asking "why"*)

How do you think he felt when you (e.g., hit him, took his toy)? (*helps child to think of others' feelings*)

What happened when you (hit him, took his toy, yelled at your sister to stop bugging you)? (*helps child think of consequences*)

How did you feel when that happened? (*child's feelings are important too*)

Can you think of a DIFFERENT way to (get to play with the toy, tell your brother how you feel, tell your sister to stop bugging you)? (*child thinks of alternative solutions*)

Is that a GOOD IDEA? What MIGHT happen if you do that? (*child evaluates new solution*)

Do you have another idea too? (*child can try another way, if needed*)

Note: After a while, just asking, "Can you think of a DIFFERENT way to . . ." is all you need. Your children now understand that they need to ICPS.

Raising a Thinking Child Workbook
Myrna Shure

I WISH YOU WELL.

(say to yourself about
child)

You wanted _____
so you _____.

(You didn't know what else to do.)
to yourself

Do not _____. That's _____.

When you want _____

say _____.

You try it.