

Brain Smart Teaching Moments

Look for times when children are hurtful to each other with words or actions; do not wait for the victim to come to you. Proactively use these conflicts as teaching opportunities in your classroom. Work vigilantly on offering positive intent to the aggressor and going to the victim first (except in cases where a child may hurt many children at once).

Behaviors to Use as Teaching Moments

Physical Hurtfulness

- Pushing
- Grabbing
- Poking
- Hitting
- Tripping

Social/Emotional Hurtfulness

- Name calling
- Exclusion
- Racism
- Sexism
- Intolerance of physical differences

Skill Reflection: Common and Conscious

If possible, partner up with someone and say the two statements out loud. See if you can feel the difference. After each statement share, "The difference between Common and Conscious for me was..."

Common	Conscious
He keeps others from learning.	He needs more individualized work to be successful.
She is disrupting this class.	She needs help to stay on task.
She is just plain lazy.	She needs help to get started.

School Family Implementation Checklist

- Attribute positive intent with the phrase "You wanted ___"** to teach social skills such as turn taking, asking for help and getting another person's attention.
- Offer positive intent and/or use A.C.T.** to transform challenging and aggressive behaviors into teaching moments.
- Notice instead of judge** when we cannot figure out what a child wants.
- Trust children to correct "You wanted" statements** if our educated guesses are incorrect.
- Create a Celebration Center.**
- Establish School Family Assemblies.**
- Use the website, including Shubert's School and the portal,** with a focus on positive intent, celebrations, wishing well and assemblies.