Prevent Child Abuse
Georgia®

Knowledge of Child Development

Importance

If parents do not understand aspects of child development, it can lead to inappropriate expectations for the child, as well as negative or exaggerated responses to behavior.

Inappropriate Expectations are an inaccurate perception of the child's skills and abilities, and are the result of:
1. Parental lack of knowledge of the needs and capabilities of the child at different levels of development
2. Parents having negative views towards themselves or their child
3. Parental lack of empathy

Basic Child Development Principles:
1. All children have basic needs
2. Development occurs in stages that are predictable
3. Children are unique individuals
4. Children are dependent on the adults in their lives

These principles can be used to educate parents to increase knowledge about the development of their child.

Extreme Negative Reactions include punishment, physical punishment, overreacting, and impulsive aggressive behaviors. They usually occur due to:
1. Attempts to teach children right from wrong
2. Accepted cultural practices
3. Punishment to change the behavior

Better Brains for Babies

This collaboration of organizations aims to promote education for the importance of early brain development in the healthy growth and development of children.

For more information, visit:
http://spock.fcs.uga.edu/ext/bbb/index.php


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