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# Supporting Positive Behavior In Children And Teens With Down Syndrome: The Respond But Don't React Method



The Respond but Don't React Method





## Synopsis

A child doesn't want to leave the toy store, so he stops and flops. Another bolts across a busy parking lot, turns and smiles at his mom. An eighteen-year-old student bursts into tears when asked to change activities at school. Sound familiar? These and other common behavior issues in children with Down syndrome can quickly become engrained and may even persist into adulthood. No parent wants that to happen, and thankfully, help is available! Dr. David Stein, a psychologist and Co-Director of the Down Syndrome Program at Boston Children's Hospital, shares his approach to behavior management in this new book for parents. Supporting Positive Behavior in Children and Teens with Down Syndrome examines how the brain of a person with Down syndrome works, how those differences impact behavior, and why bad behavior should not be viewed as a willful act. Governed by this new awareness, parents are in a better position to change and manage their child's behavior using these guiding principles: Be proactive, not reactive Be consistent Use visual schedules & Social Stories to direct behavior Develop a token reward chart Keep gut reactions in check Teach siblings to ignore bad behavior Learn effective disciplinary techniques Know when professional help is needed Some of these parenting concepts are intuitive, others are not, but when they are followed consistently, children and teens with Down syndrome do their best behaviorally and the parent-child relationship remains as positive and loving as it should be.

### **Book Information**

Paperback: 150 pages Publisher: Woodbine House (July 6, 2016) Language: English ISBN-10: 1606132636 ISBN-13: 978-1606132630 Product Dimensions: 5.8 x 0.3 x 8.9 inches Shipping Weight: 7.2 ounces Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (5 customer reviews) Best Sellers Rank: #9,649 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #29 in Books > Parenting & Relationships > Special Needs #271 in Books > Parenting & Relationships > Parenting

### **Customer Reviews**

This is a great book for several reasons. It gives a spot on description of physical and intellectual traits of a person with Down syndrome. It hits the nail on the head in its stategies of proactive interventions to avoid negative behaviors. Elopement, stop and drop and transitions are some of the

items addressed.Book is not too long and hits on all of the important tools for positive behavior formation.

Perfect advice! Over the last 2 years our son has started to learn to communicate a bit better, but his behaviors have gotten worse! It's so puzzling and sometimes it seems there is no rhyme or reason. In only 130 pages, this book has put 99% of it into a workable framework for me!Some of the statements are things I already knew instinctively -- he hits classmates because he is trying to interact with them socially and doesn't know how. Other techniques are new, or explained in a much more practical way - a token economy doesn't have to involve complicated "if/then" schemes.Now if I can just get the school staff to read this - a professional, specialized therapist who provides good, simple, practical advice and totally backs up much of what I have been saying for months. I'm buying a second copy now to provide as a first day of school gift!Probably too much if a highlight it and mark with sticky notes. Right?

This book filled a great need for our family. It has given us strategies for the difficult moments that happen (some daily) with our preschooler with DS. Transitioning from activity to activity, enlisting her cooperation with tasks she doesn't want to do, dealing with doctor appointments that cause extreme anxiety, encouraging behavior we want repeated, and discouraging unsafe/embarrassing behavior are just the highlights that come to mind. The author explains how the brain of a child with DS is different, so now we can understand and have empathy for our child in her difficult moments, instead of assuming she is just being stubborn and defiant. Right away we have worked as a team to put the suggestions into action and the results have been immediate and positive. The strategies are simple and easy for our other children to implement, who are excited to share what they have learned with other family/friends/babysitters. I have a stack of books on DS, but this one is truly unique in that it gives practical advice for smoothing out the difficulties of today and helping prepare us for new difficulties that may come as our daughter ages. This book has solved the mystery of some of her behaviors that mirror autism that we have not been able to get an explanation for from books or professionals. The only topic not covered that I was hoping to see was potty training; however, I hope to try the general strategies and see if they work. Bottom line, the book is helping us to bring out the best in our daughter, to foster a close and joyful relationship with her, and to advocate for her and her needs with others who care for her.

Wow! I wish I had this book ten years ago!!! My daughter is 11 now, and we have figured out much

about her behaviors/triggers and how to minimize resistance, but it has taken A LOT of hard work (and some headbanging... mostly on the parts of Mom, the case worker and the school behavioralist). The good news is that Dr. Stein validates and confirms just about everything we have learned, have seen and have tried. This book is refreshingly validating, and provides some clues as to the "why" of our daughter's behaviors, as well as assurance that everything we've seen is "typical"---AND that she will outgrow this stuff. It's a quick read, and a great reference for aides and teachers who will be with our daughter at school. School starts next week and I think I'm going to provide an "Executive Summary" for the team.

Book is as described. Paperback but a larger book size paperback. Good size print and an excellent book regarding behaviors.

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