

# 20 Phrases to Try When Your Child Isn't *Listening*



"Show me safe."

"Let's add that item to your birthday or Christmas list."

"You want...."

"It's okay to cry."

"I'm not okay with that."

"I see you're really upset."

"This is hard for you."

"You wish you could..."

"Tell me what comes next."

"I'm going to take a break and cool down."

"Let me hear your soft voice."



"You can always try again later."

"Let's start over."

"I don't like it when...."

"There must be something you can figure out."

"Looks like something spilled. Let's grab a rag."

"It's time to move like a ninja. Show me ninja speed."

"Show me careful."

"I'm here if you need a hug."

"Show me the hard part."

"This is not going the way you want."

*Build a bridge of connection and your child is far more likely to want to cooperate.*

# 20 Phrases to Try When Your Child *Is* Listening



"I love watching you play."

"You tried really hard to figure it out."

"That shows you're a problem-solver."

"You know exactly what you like."

"You're persistent."

"It's okay to like or not like something."

"You're really giving it your best."

"You almost got it."

"You're getting better."

"That's creative."



"Now you have it."

"I appreciate you and all your help."

"You did it that time!"

"That's the way to do it."

"One more time and you'll have it."

"You're really going to town."

"You should be proud of yourself."

"You must feel good about that."

"I like the way you handled that."

"You did it all by yourself."

*Build a bridge of connection and your child is far more likely to want to cooperate.*