

# HOW TO TALK MONTESSORI-STYLE

»»»»»»»» by Simone Davies, The Montessori Notebook »»»»»»»»

Instead of...

try this...

1. "Good job. You're so clever."

1. "You look so pleased. You put your shoes on all by yourself."

2. "Don't worry about it. It's just a bump."

2. "Ow. A bump can hurt."

3. "Don't drop the glass/touch his toy."

3. "Use two hands"/"It will be available soon"

4. It's time to sit at the table"

4. "We are going to eat in 5 minutes. When you are finished your puzzle, let's work together to get ready."

5. "Don't worry. We'll just buy a new one."

5. "The toy broke. How can we make it up to Jimmy? Perhaps we can help him fix it, or can you think of something."

6. "Let's go take a look at the puzzles"

6. Say nothing (wait to see what they choose)

7. "If you don't stop hitting your brother, you are going into time out."

7. "Use your words. What did you want to tell your brother?" OR "I heard someone say 'stop'"

8. "What happened here?"

8. "I see two kids that want the same toy. I know you can come up with a smart solution so that both of you are happy."

9. "Don't climb on the table"

9. "The note says "No climbing" (even if they can't read)

10. "I am so disappointed/frustrated that you won't leave the park"

10. "I'm torn. On one hand you want to stay at the park, and on the other hand I'm worried about getting dinner ready."