



What to do when children swear



Many parents and carers are mystified as to how children, especially toddlers have learned swear words. The answer is simple, children learn through study and copying. Swearing is usually accompanied by strong facial expression, passionate tone and provoke stronger reactions. This makes swear words all the more interesting and memorable. A swear word might only need to be said once for a child to acquire it!



It is worth taking a fairly laid back approach to children who use inappropriate language when under three years old. They are unlikely to have a sense of the meaning of the words or their impact. But be prepared for them to use words in the right context, for example when they drop something.

- It might be helpful to talk to other adults in your child's life if you suspect some constant exposure to bad language.





Hitting, Kicking, Biting & Fighting

- Don't hit, bite or kick back. It makes behaving like that all right. You can still make it clear that it hurts.

- Talk. Children often go through patches of insecurity or upset and let their feelings out by being aggressive - at playgroup for example. If by talking you find out what is worrying your child, you might be able to help.

- Children who are being aggressive need extra love and cuddles. Try to show how much you love your child, even though you don't love the way he or she is behaving.

- Help your child let his or her feelings out. Running around throwing themselves about, screaming and screeching, hitting cushions, and so on all as part of a game, can help rid of tension.

First Contact
and

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Ref: Little baby books
Heads-up lookers and communicators

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