



# Latham's Tools for Positive Behavior Change

## **Staying Close**

*You create a safe, positive environment  
and establish yourself as a source of caring, empathy, and positive consequences.*

## **Giving Positive Consequences**

*You focus primarily on building up appropriate behaviors with positive consequences.*

## **Ignoring Junk Behavior**

*You carefully ignore any age typical behavior that may be annoying,  
but is not harmful to any person or property.*

## **Ignoring the Junk Behavior of One Person and Giving Positive Consequences for the Appropriate Behavior of Another Person**

*You carefully ignore junk behavior of one person  
while giving positive consequences for the appropriate behavior of another person.*

## **Stop-Redirect-Give Positive Consequences**

*You stop a person's inappropriate behavior, redirect them to a different, logically related behavior,  
and show you like it by giving positive consequences when the person does it.*

## **Setting Expectations**

*You let the person know what behavior is expected  
and what the consequences will be for meeting or not meeting the expectations.*

## **Using a Contract**

*You make a written agreement with the person that identifies positive expectations and consequences.*

## **Time-Out**

*You interrupt a person's out of control behavior to minimize consequences  
and allow you to attend to appropriate behaviors after the person has maintained a brief period of calm.*

## **ABCs of Assessing Behavior**

*You look at what happens before and right after the person's behavior  
to figure out why the behavior is happening and what you can do to change it.*

## **Consulting Skills of Staff**

*Counselors develop strategies to assist families, staff, and teachers in their homes or schools  
to practice positive parenting skills with regards to specific behavior problems.*