

Natural and Logical Consequences

Natural and logical consequences are effective in shaping desired behavior. Our future actions are shaped by our experiences with the consequence of our actions. When the child experiences success using a particular behavior they will repeat that behavior in order to get the desirable consequence. If the consequence for a particular action is painful or frustrating the child is not likely to repeat that behavior.

Natural Consequences are the result of the child's action or behavior. The parent does not create the consequence.

Natural Consequences

- When you leave your bike in the rain it will rust, get ugly, and not work well.
- When you forget your coat you may get cold.
- When you do not do your homework your grades will be poor.

Logical Consequences are created by the parent to punish or discourage unwanted behavior. The parent should also create fun consequences to reward good behavior.

Logical Consequences

- When you leave your bike out, I will not let you use it for two days.
- When you hit your brother/sister, you will be grounded from the play area.
- You cannot go to the mall with your friends until your mess is cleaned up.

Give a natural and logical consequence for each of the following behaviors:

Your child does not return home directly after school.

Your 3 year old bites another child to get a toy truck.

You tell your ten year old to wear a jacket, he or she forgets, and it rains.
