

18 Handy Tips for Family Education

Tip 13: When kids get upset? (Dialogue Script)

Docudrama 1: DON'Ts	
Mother:	Hey girl, you are back? What's the matter? You look mad. Who made you mad? Look, I am talking to you. You don't answer me and don't even look at me. This is not polite!
Siu-yee:	It's Chan Sing who sits next to me! He laughed at me when I read out some English and then the whole class laughed also. They all said that they wouldn't be friends with me. I swear I would never go to school anymore.
Mother:	Well, I don't think it's a big deal. Just let them laugh if they want to. It won't last long anyway. Would it be too serious for you to quit school because of this? I'll call the teacher tomorrow and ask him to punish them.
Siu-yee:	Don't ever do that! Chan Sing and the others will hate me.
Mother:	You don't like this and you don't like that. You're impossible!
Siu-yee:	You just don't understand! I don't want to talk to you.
Mother:	So it's my problem?
Expert Advice	
Prof. Wong Po-choi:	Have you ever tried to help your kids but it just got worse? Sometimes, when kids want to talk to their parents, parents do not listen long enough and hurry to give advice. Kids will then think that their parents don't understand them and won't talk to their parents anymore. What can parents do? First, listen patiently so that we can truly understand the problem. Second, give response: Yes! This is the way to let kids understand that we truly care for them. Third, ask questions so as to guide kids to think. This is the way to help them face and solve the problems. When parents are willing to listen, kids will think that their parents care for them and take them seriously. This helps them build their self esteem intelligence.
Docudrama 2: DOs	
Mother:	What's the matter actually? Can you tell Mum all about it?

Siu-yee: Today, when we're in English lesson, the teacher asked me to stand up and read. Chan Sing shouted out "awful!" and the whole class laughed at me with him. I hate them and I won't attend English lessons anymore.

Mother: I got it. Girl, you've just switched to this school and the English level in this school is higher. Naturally, you haven't caught up yet. Is it alright?

Siu-yee: Certainly.

Mother: Classmates laughed at you simply because they don't understand. It isn't your fault. If you skip lessons because of this, do you think you can improve your English? Look, next time you should talk to Chan Sing seriously, "My English is poor. So please help me and don't laugh at me". After a few more times, he won't laugh at you anymore.

Siu-yee: I got it.

Mother: Actually, you are doing great in piano and calligraphy. As long as you work hard, you can improve your English. Is that right?

Siu-yee: Yes.

Mother: So, what about this? Shall we talk to the teacher tomorrow and see what he can suggest to improve your English?

Siu-yee: OK.