Covid-19 Parenting One-on-One Time

Can't go to work? Schools closed? Worried about money? It is normal to feel stressed and overwhelmed.

We can also see this as a chance to make better relationships with our children and teenagers. One-on-One time is free and fun. It makes children feel loved and secure, and shows them that they are important.

Set aside time to spend with each child.

It can be for just 20 minutes, or longer – it's up to us.

It can be at the same time each day so children or teenagers can look forward to it.

·11:



Ideas with your baby/toddler.

- Copy their facial expression and sounds.
- Sing songs, make music with pots and spoons.
- Stack cups or blocks.
 - Tell a story, read a book, or share pictures.

Ask your child what they would like to do.

Choosing builds their self confidence. If they want to do something that isn't OK with physical distancing, then this is a chance to talk with them about this. (see next leaflet)

Switch off the TV and phone. This is virus-free time.

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Ideas with your teenager.

- Talk about something they like: sports, music, celebrities, friends.
- Sook a favourite meal together.
 - Exercise together to their favorite music.

Ideas with your young child.

- Read a book or look at pictures.
- Make drawings with crayons or pencils.
- Dance to music or sing songs!
 - Do a chore together make cleaning and cooking a game!

In worldwide

languages

Help with school work.

Parenting tips

from UNICEF

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Parenting tips

from WHO

Listen to them, look at them. Give them your full attention. Have fun!

For more information click below links:



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Covid-19 Parenting Keeping It Positive

It's hard to feel positive when our kids or teenagers are driving us crazy. We often end up saying "Stop doing that!" But children are much more likely to do what we ask if we give them positive instructions and lots of praise for what they do right.

Say the behaviour you want to see.

Use positive words when telling your child what to do; like "Please put your clothes away" (instead of "Don't make a mess").

It's all in the delivery.

Shouting at your child will just make you and them more stressed and angrier. Get your child's attention by using their name. Speak in a calm voice.

Praise your child when they are behaving well.

Try praising your child or teenager for something they have done well. They may not show it, but you'll see them doing that good thing again. It will also reassure them that you notice and care.

Get real.

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Can your child actually do what you are asking them? It is very hard for a child to keep quiet inside for a whole day but maybe they can keep quiet for 15 minutes while you are on a call.

Help your teen stay connected.

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Teens especially need to be able to communicate with their friends. Help your teen connect through social media and other safe distancing ways. This is something you can do together, too!

In worldwide

languages

For more information click below links:

Parenting tips

from UNICEF

Parenting tips

from WHO

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Covid-19 Parenting Structure Up

COVID-19 has interrupted our daily work, home and school routines. This is hard for children, teenagers and for you. Making new routines can help.

Create a flexible but consistent daily routine.

Make a schedule for you and your children that has time for structured activities as well as free time. This can help children feel more secure and better behaved.

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- Children or teenagers can help plan the routine for the day like making a school timetable. Children will follow this better if they help to make it.
- Include exercise in each day this helps with stress and kids with lots of energy at home.

If it is OK in your country, get children outside.

- about \triangleright You can also write letters and draw pictures to share with people. Put them up outside your home for others to see!
 - You can reassure your child by talking about how you are keeping safe. Listen to their suggestions and take them seriously.

Make handwashing and hygiene fun

Teach

your child

keeping

distances

safe

Make a 20-second song for washing hands. Add actions! Give children points and praise for regular handwashing.

from WHO

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Make a game to see how few times we can touch our faces with a reward for the least number of touches (you can count for each other).

At the end of each day, take a minute to think about the day. Tell your child about one positive or fun thing they did.

Praise yourself for what you did well today. You are a star



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Newton The **LEGO** Foundation

You are a model for your

child's behavior.

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SOOD THINGS

For more information click below links: Parenting tips

Parenting tips from UNICEF

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CDC

In worldwide languages

Covid-19 Parenting When Children Misbehave...

All children misbehave. It is normal when children are tired, hungry, afraid, or learning independence. And they can drive us crazy when stuck at home.



Covid-19 Parenting Keep Calm and Manage Stress

This is a stressful time. Take care of yourself, so you can support your children.

You are not alone.

Millions of people have the same fears as us. Find someone who you can talk to about how you are feeling. Listen to them. Avoid social media that makes you feel panicked.

Take a break.

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We all need a break sometimes. When your children are asleep, do something fun or relaxing for yourself. Make a list of healthy activities that YOU like to do. You deserve it!

Listen to your kids.

Be open and listen to your children. Your children will look to you for support and reassurance. Listen to your children when they share how they are feeling. Accept how they feel and give them comfort.

Take a Pause.	 Step 1: Set up Find a comfortable sitting position, your feet flat on the floor, your hands resting in your lap. Close your eyes if you feel comfortable. 	
1-minute		
relaxation (Step 2: Think, feel, body	
activity that you can do whenever you are feeling stressed or worried.	 Ask yourself, "What am I thinking now?" Notice your thoughts. Notice if they are negative or positive. Notice how you feel emotionally. Notice if your feelings are happy or not. Notice how your body feels. Notice anything that hurts or is tense. 	>

Taking a Pause can also be helpful when you find your child is irritating you or has done something wrong. It gives you a chance to be calmer.

Even a few deep breaths or connecting with the feeling of the floor beneath can make a difference.

You can also Take a Pause with your children!

Step 3: Focus on your breath

- Listen to your breath as it goes in and out.
- You can put a hand on your stomach and feel it rise and fall with each breath.
- You may want to say to yourself "It's okay. Whatever it is, I am okay."
- Then just listen to your breath for a while.

Step 4: Coming back

- · Notice how your whole body feels.
- Listen to the sounds in the room.

Step 5: Reflecting

from UNICEF

from WHO

- Think "do I feel different at all?".
- When you are ready, open your eyes.

languages





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Covid-19 Parenting Talking about COVID-19

Be willing to talk. They will already have heard something. Silence and secrets do not protect our children. Honesty and openness do. Think about how much they will understand.

You know them best.

Be open and listen.

Allow your child to talk freely. Ask them open questions and find out how much they already know.

Be honest.

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Always answer their questions truthfully. Think about how old your child is and how much they can understand.

Be supportive.

Your child may be scared or confused. Give them space to share how they are feeling and let them know you are there for them.

There are a lot of stories going around

Some may not be true. Use trustworthy sites: https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public and https://www.unicef.org/coronavirus/covid-19 from WHO and UNICEF.

It is OK not to know the answers.

It is fine to say "We don't know, but we are working on it; or we don't know, 'but we think'." Use this as an opportunity to learn something new with your child!

Heroes not bullies.

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Explain that COVID-19 has nothing to do with the way someone looks, where they are from, or what language they speak. Tell your child that we can be compassionate to people who are sick and those who are caring for them.

Look for stories of people who are working to stop the outbreak and are caring for sick people.

End on a good note.

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Parenting tips

from WHO

Check to see if your child is okay. Remind them that you care and that they can talk to you anytime. Then do something fun together!

For more information click below links:

Parenting tips In worldwide from UNICEF languages



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Children and teens are now spending a lot more time online. Being connected helps them reduce the impact of COVID-19 and encourages them to continue with their lives... but it also presents risks and dangers.



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Covid-19 Parenting Family Budgeting in Times of Financial Stress

Millions are stressed about money because of COVID-19. It can make us feel exhausted, angry, and distracted Children or teenagers asking for things can cause arguments. It can help them a lot when we involve them with family budgeting.

Involve children (>) A budget is how we decide what we will spend our money on, There may be even in stressful times. and teens in help you can making a family () Making a budget together helps children understand that we get. all need to make hard decisions in difficult times. budget. > It also helps families to have Your government may enough at the end of the be giving money, or month. and borrow less. food parcels to families during COVID-19. 0 ሽ a 🗔 places in your community are giving 0 support. = What do we spend Talk about needs and **Build your own** now? wants. budget. S Get a piece of paper (or old newspaper Needs: Which things are important (\mathcal{D}) Find a bag of stones or anything with or a cardboard box) and a pen.

- > Draw pictures of all the things that you and your family spend money on each month.
- Write next to each picture how much each thing costs.
- > Add up how much money you have to spend each month.
- or must haves for your family to survive? (like food, soap to wash hands, needs for ill or disabled family members).
- (>)Wants: Which things are nice to have but not essential?
- Discuss with your children what (>)things you could try to spend less on as a family.
- lots of bits. This is your money for the month.
- As a family, decide what you will spend on what, and put the stones on your picture.
- If you can save even a tiny amount for the future, or for an emergency it is great.

Well done! Millions of families find that this helps.





Covid-19 Parenting Family Harmony at Home

When we model peaceful and loving relationships, our children feel more secure and loved. Positive language, active listening, and empathy help maintain a peaceful and happy family environment under stressful times.



Use positive language. It works!

Tell others what you want them to do instead of what you don't want them to do: Instead of "Stop shouting," try "Please speak more

Praise others to make them feel appreciated and good about themselves. Simple words like, "Thank you for clearing the dinner," or "Thank you for watching the baby" can make a big difference.

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do together as a

Let each family member take turns choosing a whole family

Find ways to spend quality time alone with your partner and other

Be an empathetic active listener.

Listen to others when they are talking with you.

Be open and show them that you hear what they are saying.

It can help to summarise what you have heard before responding: "What I hear you saying is ... "

Click HERE for useful resources and support if you are experiencing violence at home

For more information click below links:





Covid-19 Parenting Learning through Play

Millions of children face interruptions with schooling and often feel isolated from friends and peers. This tip is about learning through play – something that can be fun for all ages!



Covid-19 Parenting When We Get Angry

We love our children and teenagers, but stress from caregiving, money, and COVID-19 can make us angry. Here is how we can maintain control and manage our anger so we do not hurt others.

Stop the river at the source.

- > The same things usually make us get stressed and angry every time.
- What makes you angry? When does it happen? How do you normally react?
- Prevent anger from starting in the first place. Get some sleep or rest when you are tired. Try to eat something when you are hungry. Ask someone for support when you are feeling alone.
- Look after yourself. Try the "<u>Take a</u> <u>Pause</u>" and "<u>Managing Stress</u>" resource sheets for ideas.

TIPS FROM WHO

Brain science shows that if you control your anger or do something positive you increase your child's brain development. Be proud of yourself when you manage to do it!

That's real success!

Take a break.

When you start feeling angry, take a 20-second cool down. Breathe in and out slowly 5 times before you speak or move.

So somewhere else for 10 minutes to regain control of your emotions. If you have safe outdoor space, go outside.

If you are getting angry because your baby won't stop crying, it's OK to leave them on their back in a safe location, like a crib, and walk away for a bit. Check on your baby every 5-10 minutes.

Take care of yourself.

We all need to connect. Talk to friends, family, and other support networks every day.

Cut back on drinking alcohol or don't drink, especially when the kids are awake.

Do you have weapons or things that can be used to hurt others? Lock them up, hide them or take them out of the home.

It's ok to have your children stay somewhere safe or take them to a place where they can get help.

EVIDENCE-BASE

The COVID-19 crisis isn't forever - we just have to get through it now...one day at a time.

For more information click below links:

OTHER LANGUAGES



TIPS FROM UNICEF

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Covid-19 Parenting Parenting in Crowded Homes and Communities

Keeping your family healthy and safe from COVID-19 can feel even harder when you live in crowded conditions. There are things you can do to make this easier for your family.

Help your children with Make handwashing and Keep staying safe. physical distancing. hygiene fun! Limit those leaving and returning to your (Σ) immediate living space to as few and as Explain to your children that they have an It might be hard to find soap and water, but \bigcirc infrequent as possible. important job of keeping themselves and practicing good hygiene is more important (>)their community healthy by temporarily now than ever. Know the COVID-19 rules about what you 5 physically distancing from others. can and can't do in your area. Try to wash all family members' hands as often as possible with soap and water. Show them extra positive attention when they make an effort to practice safe physical distancing from others. Help children teach each other how to wash 5 their hands with soap and water. Encourage children to avoid touching their face. Share the load. **Exercise daily.** Take a Pause. Looking after children and other family (>) (\mathcal{D}) Encourage children to think of activities they >You might not have space to yourself to deal members is difficult in cramped spaces, can do to exercise while avoiding contact with all the stress and emotions you are but it's much easier when responsibilities with people who do not already live in your feeling. are shared. immediate space. (>)Notice when you are feeling stressed or upset (Σ) and take a pause ... even three deep breaths can Try to share household chores, childcare, Jumping activities, dancing or running in and other tasks equally amongst family make a difference! circles can be fun! members. Well done! Millions of families find that this (>)Create a schedule for time "on" and time helps "off" with other adults in your household. It is okay to ask for help when you are (Σ) feeling tired or stressed so that you can take a break. **Keep using** Keeping positive, having a routine and trying to get some one-to-one time with each child when you can will help you manage your children's behaviours and your feelings. these tips For more information click below links: TIPS FROM UNICER OTHER LANGUAGES EVIDENCE-BASE **TIPS FROM WHO** unicef 🥨 CHILDHOOD eSafety We PROTECT 🗣 WWD BIDEMS CDC INTERNET O (UNODC Maestral. BUSAID unicef 🐲 OXFORD ©AK UK Res and In GCRF **Newton** The **LEGO** Foundation

Covid-19 Parenting Tips for Children with Disabilities

All children, including those with disabilities, need love, respect, nurturing, and time, especially during difficult and uncertain times.

Keep your child safe.

- It is strongly recommended that you follow local guidelines for COVID-19 while helping your child stay as active as possible both indoors and outdoors.
- Ask your local support team or intervention centres about special arrangements for the COVID-19.
- Keep emergency contact numbers where you can easily see it, such as on the refrigerator.

Be supportive, empathetic, and loving.

- Your child may not have the same support they usually have, and this can lead to additional challenges such as increased stress, anxiety, and frustration.
 - Use physical and verbal support to make your child feel accepted and loved.
 - Positive body language, gestures, and words make a big difference!

Communicating with your child.

- Get down to your child's level when communicating with your child.
- Maintain eye contact, a positive attitude.
- Take your time to allow your child the space to communicate.
 - Observe, listen to, and confirm that you understand your child.

TIPS FROM UNICEF

Reinforce the positive!

- Reinforce strengths with praise and stimulate their abilities rather than highlight the things they cannot do.
 - Only help children when they need it. Too much support denies them the chance to become independent and can feel patronising.

EVIDENCE-BASE IS HERE

For more information click below links:

OTHER LANGUAGES

Ask for help if you can.

Share the load with other adult family members.

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- You are not alone! Keep connected with people who understand your situation. Share your challenges AND your successes.
- It is normal to feel stressed, frustrated, and afraid at this time.
- Be kind to yourself and take a break when you need to! Tip sheets "When We Get Angry" and
 - "Keep Calm and Manage Stress" have some helpful advice.

Strengthen routines.

- Routines help children feel secure and safe. See tip sheet, "Structure Up!" for more info.
- Create a daily routine with activities that are familiar to your child and include some of their favourite activities.
- Help your child connect to friends and family members via phone chats, writing cards, or drawing pictures.
- Provide your child with choices so that they have a sense of control. This also increases self-esteem.
- Use simple language and clear instructions and nonverbal communication for children who need it (for example: gestures, pictures, and visual aids).

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Covid-19 Parenting Tips for Parenting Teens

Adolescents may be missing school, friends and socialisation. It is important to provide them with extra support as well as the space to express themselves independently.





Covid-19 Parenting Parenting a New Baby?

We spend a lot of time indoors with a young baby, and Covid-19 makes it much more intense. It is completely normal to feel isolated, overwhelmed, anxious, and scared for you and your baby.



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Covid-19 Parenting Education and remote learning

COVID-19 has interrupted our children's education with school closures and remote learning. It is normal to feel overwhelmed when we have to help our children learn, especially when we also have stress about work and money.

Create a routine around learning and schoolwork.

- Make a daily plan with your child for when they can spend time doing educational activities.
- > This can include structured schoolwork and other activities online, reading, writing, or arts.
- Allow flexibility and time for play and relaxation too.

Make learning fun and playful.

- Schildren learn best when learning is fun!
- Try to find ways to make learning playful to keep your child interested and engaged.

Stay connected with your child's school and teachers.

- Find out how to stay in touch with your children's teacher or school to stay informed, ask questions, and get more guidance.
- > If you are struggling or know someone who is struggling with school work or the home situation, please discuss this with a teacher that you feel close to.
- Parent groups or community groups can also be a good way to support each other with your home schooling.



Remember that you are a parent NOT a substitute teacher!

Your role is to support your child by creating a space to learn.

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You do not need to know all the answers. Help them explore their interests and ask questions.

So at your child's pace and be patient with yourself.

Support your child when they go back to school.

- Tell your child that it is okay to feel scared or worried about going back to school.
- Allow your child to share how they are feeling. It is also normal if your child behaves different to their usual behaviour.
- Discuss how going to school might be different and how they can protect themselves from COVID-19.
- Ask them how their day went and support them if they experienced any difficulties.

