The practice of parent/guardian praise may be used to increase a child’s good behavior through positive interventions. These could be praise, encouragement or affection. Parents/guardians give their child positive attention when they have good behavior. The child soon learns that they will receive positive attention for good behavior.

**How does this practice work?**

- React with praise when a child has good behavior.
- Use words that describe how well a child responded to a command.
- Use words that describe how well a child is doing in a certain situation.
- Give praise right after the good behavior.
- Give the amount of praise equal to how hard the task is for a child.
- Practice by giving commands and staying close by to give praise.

**Examples:**

- Luke is asked to play quietly while his Aunt is working.
  Aunt’s praise- “I liked the way you played quietly when I was on the phone.”

- Mariana is asked to put the dishes away.
  Father’s praise- “Mariana, I really appreciate you helping me by putting away the dishes.”

- Jose was told to be home by 12:00 pm for curfew.
  Father’s praise- “Jose, you listened well to the rules last night. I know you were home by midnight.”

- Norah was told to come home right after school to let the family dog out.
  Mother’s praise: “Susan I really appreciate the fact that I can count on you to let the dog out after school.”