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Praise and Power

Children thrive in an environment of being valued and loved. Praise for children's accomplishments encourages them to continue to accomplish and share their achievements with those whom they please. Attention to their smiles, their gurgles, their "patty cakes" and "bye-byes" enhances their communication and their learning. Reading to children, discussing, sharing interests and answering their questions expands their vocabulary, their information and their intelligence. They soon find that their own vocabulary, knowledge and reasoning empower them to capture adult conversation. They have thus learned that intelligence and learning are valued in their home. This is an apparent good beginning to a lifetime of learning. Praise, attention and positive reinforcement are good for children.

Too Much Praise, Too Much of a Good Thing

Some parents who recognize the value of praise, make the assumption that if some praise is good, more praise must be better. Other parents may assume that if they praise their children in extravagant terms, it will build their children's self-concepts even more. In their attempts to build children's confidence, some parents praise too much. Too much praise may cause your children to become praise dependent or "attention

TOO MUCH OF A GOOD THING

WHAT A
BEAUTIFUL
CHILD!

ISN'T SHE
PERFECT!

SHE'S BRILLIANT!

I THINK SHE'LL
CURE CANCER!

