

III. Oral Language Development for Infants, Toddlers, and Preschoolers (contd.)

Communicate Limits to Others/Review Limits Periodically: Communicate limits to everyone who walks into the setting; communicate information on limits to parents.

It is important that everyone who comes into the setting – substitutes, visitors, etc. – knows the rules. Participants should be encouraged to think about how that will be done. Will they be referred to the poster with the rules? Is there written information that is given to everyone who comes into the setting that they must read prior to beginning?

Preschool children quickly figure out who doesn't know the rules and may attempt new behaviors that do not comply with the rules to test this out. It is important that all of the adults in the setting be consistent with expectations.

Parents need to know what the expectations are for children in this setting. How do participants let parents know of the rules? Is there a parent letter or newsletter that is given to parents at a certain time? Is there a handbook or packet of information that contains this? Leaving it up to the teacher to explain the rules to every parent is not effective and is time consuming. Each setting should have a procedure for communicating this with parents and helping them to understand the rules and reasons for them.