

Natural and Logical Consequences

Natural consequences help correct irresponsible or immature behaviors. Your child must deal with the effects or consequences of an action. Another form of consequence is logical consequences, where we “let the punishment fit the crime.”

Examples of natural and logical consequences:

Problem

Overslept and missed school bus

Child breaks toy

Damages neighbor’s property

Wets bed

Won’t get things ready for school

Natural or logical consequence

Walk to school

No replacement of toy

Make restitution by doing chores for neighbor

Must strip and clean bed sheets

Send to school as is (without all materials)

Directions

1. Identify the specific situations or behaviors that can best be handled with natural or logical consequences. List those here.

2. Decide what the consequences for these behaviors might be and how they should be applied. List those here.

3. You may be concerned about letting your child face natural or logical consequences. What are the advantages and disadvantages of letting your child face those consequences?

Disadvantages

Advantages

Having weighed the advantages and disadvantages, make a list of appropriate thoughts you can say to yourself that will enable you to carry through with the use of natural or logical consequences.

“ _____ ”

“ _____ ”

“ _____ ”

“ _____ ”