

**Developing Good Habits at Home** 





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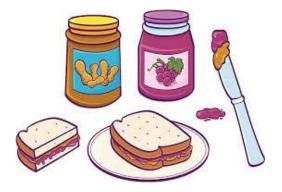


The only person you can make change is... YOURSELF!

-- Conscious Discipline 2014

# How to make a peanut butter and jelly sandwich...





### **Brain State of the Early Years Child**



#### **Survival State**

#### BRAIN STEM

The Survival State represents the primal brain and asks the question, "Am I safe?" The only way to soothe the Survival State is through the creation of Safety.



#### **Emotional State**

#### LIMBIC SYSTEM

This Brain State represents mid-level functionality and asks the question, "Am I loved?" The only way to soothe an upset emotional state is through *Connection.* 



#### **Executive State**

#### PREFRONTAL LOBES

The Executive State represents the optimal state for problem-solving and learning. This Brain State asks the question, "What can I learn from this?"

Group Questions

- What are some of the things your child does in the survival state?
- What are some of the things your child does in the emotional state?



Discipline is not something you do to children; it is something you develop within them.

-Dr. Becky Bailey

### **Child Development**

Task:

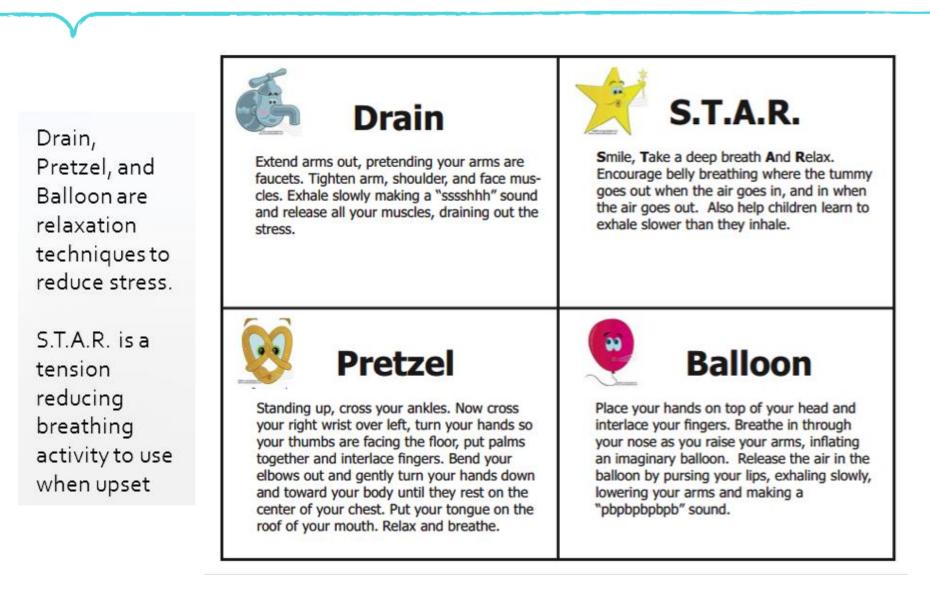
- Each poster has a child at a particular age
- Complete the poster by:
  - 1. Drawing a child at that age
  - 2. List their likes and dislikes
  - 3. List how they are socially and emotionally
  - 4. Give examples of things they say
  - 5. List observable behaviours they display
  - 4. Describe milestones you would see at this age



# **The Survival State**

- The reactive state where we choose to fight, flight, and freeze.
- Common behaviours include physical aggressiveness, tantrums, or withdrawing.
- What to do at home:
  - 1. Stay calm and ensure your child is safe.
  - 2. Notice what caused your child to have the behaviour.
  - 3. Be assertive not aggressive with responding to the behavior.
  - 4. Create a breathing routine to help your child when the trigger occurs.
  - 5. Ignore attention seeking behaviour.
  - 6. After the behaviour ends, discuss with your child what happened.

## **Breathing Techniques**



### **The Emotional State**

- The state where children want to feel loved.
- During the first three years of life, children learn how to be in relationships through the attachments of caregivers.
- Common behaviours include attention seeking, relationship resistance, clinginess, perfectionism, name calling, social exclusion
- What to do at home:
  - 1. Stay calm and ensure your child is safe.
  - 2. Look for "false messages" that your child is saying and feeling.
  - 3. What occurred to make your child feel that he or she is being excluded or unloved?
  - 4. If a child feels unloved by a caregiver, the caregiver would need to create a new secure bond.
  - 5. Listen to your child when your child feels uncomfortable around someone.
  - 6. Show attunement to promote secure attachments.

#### **Two Positive Choices**

- 1. Breathe deeply and make a conscious decision to focus on what you want your child to do.
- 2. Tell your child "You have a choice!" in a upbeat tone.
- 3. Clearly state two choices that will achieve the goal.
- 4. Complete the process by asking your child to make a commitment.
- 5. Notice your child's choice.



### Assertive, Passive, and Aggressive Voices

| $\mathbf{v}$ |                                 |                                    |                                       |
|--------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
|              | Assertive                       | Passive                            | Aggressive                            |
| Intent       | Clarity and success             | Avoids conflict through pleasing   | Avoids conflict<br>through dominating |
| Tone         | No doubt.                       | Asking permission?                 | Or else!                              |
| Power        | Within                          | Given away                         | Taken from others                     |
| Feelings     | Owned with direct<br>expression | Projected with indirect expression | Projected with indirect expression    |
| Information  | Usable, what to do              | Unusable, confusing                | Usable, attacking                     |







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- 1. Name, verb, paint all the assertive commands
- 2. The voice of no doubt
- 3. Tell and show if your child resist
- 4. Redirection
- 5. I-Messages





### **Resources for Parents**

- <u>https://consciousdiscipline.com/</u>
- https://iitway.com/mod/book/view.php?id=670
- <u>https://www.today.com/parenting-guides</u>
- https://www.babycenter.com/
- https://www.fatherly.com/
- https://raisingchildren.net.au/
- <u>https://allfortheboys.com/</u>



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