



Step 1:

Offer guidance and instruction about expect behavior and possible outcomes of 'poor' choices.

Example "Friends like it when you take turns like this (demonstrate). If you treat friends poorly they may not play with you."

Step 2:

Allow children to experience the consequences of their choices

Step 3:

Model self control. When a child makes 'poor' choices, resist lecturing. Resist getting angry. Don't moralize. Take a deep breath.



Step 4:

Offer empathy to disappointed child. "You seem upset. It's hard to play alone and not be with friends." Empathy allows children to own their problems. This key to learning responsibility.



Step 5:

Assist children in learning new strategies
Example: 'Would you be interested in learning ways to make new friens?'