

Role Play

Confronting the Mean Sibling

(Cut up the following into strips and give each strip to a different volunteer.)

Frustrated Parent:

You will confront your child for being mean to his/her brother. Each other volunteer will play the role of your child but will react with a different response. You're frustrated because this child is continually being mean and it needs to stop. After one responds, go on to the next "child" and confront him/her.

Blamer (Child):

When confronted about your meanness you look for ways to blame the problem on others, your brother, your parents, or anything else you can think of to blame the problem on.

Victim (Child):

When confronted about your meanness you play the victim. It really isn't your fault. You're just the victim, always getting picked on.

Rationalizer (Child):

When confronted about your meanness you rationalize your behavior by thinking of all kinds of reasons why you did what you did. You're not necessarily blaming the problem on others as much as thinking of reasons to rationalize the situation. (ie: I had to, he's annoying, I had no choice. It wasn't that bad.)

Justifier (Child):

When confronted about your meanness you justify your position with evidence (ie: Look! I have teeth marks on my arm. I was right. He broke me toy, etc.)