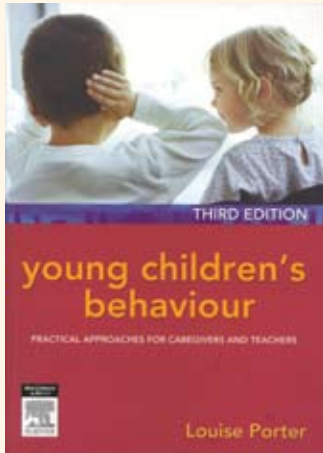


Resource reviews

By Phillip Rowell

Young children's behaviour: Practical approaches for caregivers and teachers



Child psychologist and author Dr. Louise Porter revisits the theories and practices that support the effective guidance of children's behaviour. The first step is to establish nurturing, respectful and equitable relationships that focus on strategies which teach children

to find solutions to their behaviours and 'to recognise their own achievements so that they strive to become more competent' (Porter, 2008).

The third edition of this resource refers to practical and evidence based strategies which are supported by current research. The key word is 'guidance', and Porter suggests replacing traditional techniques, which may have relied upon discipline or consequences, with experiences that encourage children to learn how to acknowledge and manage their actions.

There is also a chapter addressing the behaviour guidance techniques that can assist child care professionals who work with children with additional needs, such as Attention Deficit Disorder. Another section discusses common disruptive behaviours that often occur as a result of routines such as mealtimes, rest/sleep time and transitions.

This book will appeal to child care professionals who are seeking information on current research and best practice to support the development or review of their behaviour guidance policy and practices ■

Porter, L. (2008). *Young children's behaviour: Practical approaches for caregivers and teachers* (3rd ed). NSW, Australia: MacLennan & Petty.

Sharing the stage: A practical guide to helping children and young people take part in decision making

Sharing the Stage is a resource kit that discusses the value of empowering young people to become active participants in decision making processes. The kit explores a range of strategies that can assist organisations and professionals to form partnerships with children which are equitable, respectful and collaborative.

The kit has been developed in consultation with schools, government and non-government bodies by the New South Wales (NSW) Commission for Children and Young People.

One section of the kit is titled *The Five Key Elements of Effective Participation*. These *Elements* are:

- Participation is part of the organisation's culture;
- Kids have a place in decision making;
- Adults adapt to kids' ways of working;
- Strong relationships with kids; and
- Participation rewards kids and the organisation.

A key feature of each element is the 'participation of practice' component which draws upon real life examples where adults and young people have succeeded in making decisions collaboratively to reach outcomes which value each points of view.

Sharing the Stage will support child care professionals who are seeking to develop partnerships with children and to improve children's opportunities to participate in decision making ■

The NSW Commission for Children and Young People. (n.d.). *Sharing the stage*. This resource can be purchased or downloaded from the 'Resources' section of the NSW Commission for Children and Young People website: www.kids.nsw.gov.au