

Tips For Matches

- Here are some helpful tips and resources for mentors:

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- Read our guide to Child Development Stages
- Be Yourself
- Be an active listener
- Be clear and consistent
- Avoid getting in the middle between parent and child
- Accept your Little for who he/she is
- Be honest about your values and feelings
- See your Little as an individual
- Do not pass judgments
- Get to know your Little gradually and naturally
- Consider your relationship important
- Avoid accusations
- Select activities that are age appropriate
- Have fun
- Be affectionate and caring
- Give encouragement
- Model appropriate behavior
- Be dependable
- Be realistic
- Give advice sparingly
- Help your Little become more self-aware
- Be patient
- Do not criticize
- Do not use a lot of "shoulds"
- Set limits for proper conduct for your Little
- Do not make promises you cannot keep

- Structure creative, imaginative activities
- Remember what it was like to be that age
- Be flexible
- Acknowledge accomplishments
- Do not share personal problems