



# Early Childhood Education Teachers' Strategies for Reducing Aggressive Behavior

This study examines how preschool teachers address aggressive behavior in young students. Aggressive behavior, including physical and verbal actions, can be a precursor to bullying. The research aims to describe strategies implemented by teachers to reduce aggression in early childhood settings. Using a qualitative approach with descriptive methods, the study involves interviews and observations of PAUD (early childhood education) teachers.



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# Understanding Aggressive Behavior in Early Childhood

Aggressive behavior in early childhood often stems from a child's inability to manage emotions, communicate effectively, or resolve conflicts peacefully. It can manifest as physical actions like hitting or kicking, or verbal aggression such as shouting. Environmental factors, lack of supervision, and exposure to violent media can contribute to aggressive tendencies. While some aggression is considered part of normal development, if left unmanaged it can evolve into more serious behavioral issues.

1

## Emotional Immaturity

Child struggles to manage emotions and communicate effectively

2

## Environmental Factors

Lack of supervision and exposure to violent media content

3

## Behavioral Manifestation

Physical or verbal aggression towards peers or objects

4

## Potential Consequences

If unaddressed, can develop into more serious behavioral problems



# Teacher Perceptions and Understanding

Teachers view aggressive behavior negatively, recognizing its potential impact on child development. They understand aggressive behavior as intentional acts to harm others, either physically or non-physically. Teachers identify common aggressive behaviors such as kicking, hitting, and using harsh words. They recognize that aggressive behavior can significantly affect a child's emotional well-being, potentially leading to decreased self-confidence and anxiety in social situations.

## 1 Negative View

Teachers perceive aggressive behavior as detrimental to child development

## 2 Intentional Harm

Understood as deliberate acts to hurt others physically or emotionally

## 3 Common Behaviors

Identified as kicking, hitting, and using harsh language

## 4 Emotional Impact

Recognized effects include decreased self-confidence and social anxiety





# Intervention Strategies

Teachers employ various strategies to address aggressive behavior. These include giving immediate reprimands, taking firm and consistent action, providing positive reinforcement, and implementing punishments when necessary. They also involve parents and provide guidance for children. Specific interventions include quickly stopping fights, implementing classroom consequences like time-outs, informing parents, teaching kindness and empathy, and supporting victims. Teachers emphasize the importance of supervising children's behavior and participating in their play activities.

1

## **Immediate Response**

Quick intervention to stop aggressive behavior

2

## **Consistent Action**

Firm and consistent responses to aggression

3

## **Positive Reinforcement**

Encouraging and rewarding good behavior

4

## **Parental Involvement**

Informing and engaging parents in addressing issues



# Specific Intervention Steps

Teachers follow a structured approach to intervention: 1) Reprimanding the aggressor by questioning the cause and effect of their behavior, encouraging self-reflection. 2) Responding quickly when fights occur to immediately stop negative behavior. 3) Maintaining a firm attitude towards aggressors to uphold rules and create discipline. 4) Implementing a reward and punishment system, where good behavior is rewarded and aggressive behavior faces consequences.



## Question Behavior

Ask about causes and effects of aggressive actions



## Quick Response

Immediately intervene when conflicts arise



## Firm Attitude

Maintain consistent discipline and rule enforcement



## Rewards/Consequences

Implement system of rewards for good behavior and consequences for aggression

# Theoretical Basis for Interventions

The intervention steps used by teachers are supported by research showing their effectiveness in reducing aggression and creating a positive environment. Reprimanding aggressors helps children evaluate the consequences of their actions, building self-awareness. Immediate responses to conflicts send a clear message that aggressive behavior is unacceptable. Firm attitudes towards aggressors help establish boundaries and discipline. The reward and punishment system encourages positive behavior while discouraging negative actions, helping children consider the impact of their behavior.

## Self-Reflection

Questioning behavior builds awareness of consequences

## Clear Boundaries

Immediate responses and firm attitudes establish behavioral norms

## Behavior Modification

Reward and punishment system shapes future actions



# Challenges in Implementation

Teachers face challenges in implementing these strategies, particularly in controlling the emotions of aggressive children who may have selfish tendencies. For victims, building self-confidence can be difficult. The research notes that aggressive behavior, including bullying, can significantly impact a child's socio-emotional development. This underscores the importance of consistent and appropriate handling by educators to create a safer, more conducive environment for all children.

Challenge	Impact
Controlling aggressor emotions	Difficulty in immediate intervention
Addressing selfish tendencies	Persistence of aggressive behavior
Building victim confidence	Prolonged negative socio-emotional effects
Maintaining consistency	Effectiveness of interventions



# Conclusion and Future Directions

The study concludes that aggressive behavior, including bullying, can negatively affect children's socio-emotional development, necessitating consistent and appropriate handling from educators. The interventions described show effectiveness in reducing aggressive behavior and supporting positive social skills development in children. However, the research acknowledges limitations, as it focuses on one school, suggesting that different schools may employ varying strategies to handle aggressive behavior. Future research could explore a wider range of schools to identify diverse approaches and best practices in managing early childhood aggression.

## Effective Interventions

Consistent strategies reduce aggression and promote positive development

## Socio-emotional Impact

Aggressive behavior significantly affects child development

## Research Limitations

Study focused on one school, limiting generalizability

## Future Directions

Explore strategies across multiple schools to identify best practices