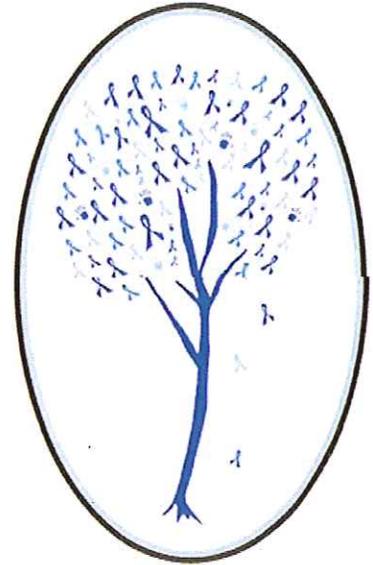


## Building a Blue Ribbon Tree with Grade School Aged Children

The Child Abuse Prevention Action Committee recommends that, while working with children on projects such as Building a Blue Ribbon Tree, the focus remains on the positive aspects of prevention. It is our hope and goal for everyone to be involved in preventing child abuse, and we certainly want to include children! By supporting all children and educating about healthy families and how the community can help families, we will be preventing child abuse.



Ideas for ways to talk to children about Building a Blue Ribbon Tree:

1) Talk about charities their parents may have supported in the past. They may have gone on a walk to support breast cancer with their parents; they may have helped in some way with Special Olympics, etc. They can do some kind of project (large or small) about these familiar charities.

2) Discuss with the children that the Blue Ribbon Tree project is for supporting children and their families. If we call people's attention to children and families' needs, more people will want to help.



3) It feels good to do nice things for others.

4) Some of the ways we can all help children and their families in our community:

- ⇒ Learn about organizations that help families with children and ask if they need help. Volunteer.
- ⇒ Clean up a playground, park or school.
- ⇒ Volunteer to read to children in the hospital.
- ⇒ Donate food, clothes, etc. for families that need them.
- ⇒ Donate toys for children @ Christmas time or any time of the year. It might be someone's birthday!
- ⇒ Tell children how special and important they are.
- ⇒ Pray for the families in your community.
- ⇒ Look for kids doing kind things and tell them what you think!



⇒ Donate books. Read to a child.

- ⇒ Have a Blue Ribbon Tree party in April for all the people you know that help families. Invite people that might want to join you. Send a picture of your tree to us so we can show it @ the capitol.