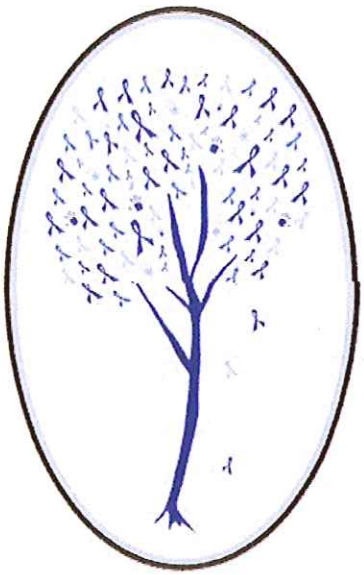
Building a Blue Ribbon Tree with Preschool Aged Children



The Child Abuse Prevention Action Committee recommends that, while working with young 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 young children about Building a Blue Ribbon Tree:

1) Talk about symbols that they recognize and what they represent. For example, show them a picture of a McDonalds sign and ask them what they think of; show a picture of a heart and ask them what it means to them. You can think of more....this will be a fun game for them. Next show them a picture of a Blue Ribbon Tree. Tell the children that a Blue Ribbon Tree means that children are special and need adults to take care of them.

2) Draw pictures of blue ribbon trees, glue blue shredded paper on a picture of a tree, etc. While working on art projects tied to Blue Ribbon Trees, talk about how important children are. Talk about their families and how many people love each one of them....including you, their teacher.

3) It feels good to do nice things for others. Talk about nice things they can do for each other and how it makes them feel.

4) Tell the children their whole school is going to make a big Blue Ribbon Tree so that all the people driving by (or coming in) and all the moms and dads know that our school believes that children are special.

5) Discuss things they can do for children and moms and dads that would be helpful.

- ⇒ Learn about organizations that help families with young children.
- ⇒ Clean up a park, playground or school.
- ⇒ Donate food, clothes, etc. for families that need them.
- ⇒ Donate toys and books for children.
- ⇒ Tell children how special and important they are.
- ⇒ Pray for the families in your community.
- ⇒ When someone does something nice for you or someone else, tell them, "Thank You!"
- ⇒ 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.

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