P.R.I.D.E. skills increase your child’s self-esteem, improve the parent-child relationship, and decrease behavior and child mental health problems.

**PRAISE APPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR**
- Increases the desired behavior
- Increases the child’s self-esteem
- Adds to warmth of the relationship

**Example**
Caregiver: I like the way you are playing so quietly!

**REFLECT APPROPRIATE TALK**
- Allows the child to direct the conversation
- Shows the child that you are listening
- Demonstrates acceptance of the child
- Increases verbal communication

**Example**
Child: I made a castle.
Caregiver: Yes, you made a castle.

**IMITATE APPROPRIATE PLAY**
- Lets the child lead
- Shows approval of the child’s choice of play
- Shows child that you are involved
- Teaches the child how to play with others

**Example**
Child: I’m putting baby to bed.
Caregiver: I will put brother to bed, too.

**DESCRIBE APPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR**
- Shows children you are interested
- Teaches concepts
- Models speech
- Organizes the child’s thoughts about play

**Example**
Caregiver: That’s a green block.

**ENTHUSIASM**
- Demonstrates interest in the child
- Models appropriate positive emotions
- Supports positive statements
- Creates a positive relationship

**Example**
Caregiver: Wow, that’s great!

**Things to Remember**
- Ignore inappropriate behavior
- Avoid giving commands to the child
- Avoid asking questions
- Avoid criticizing the child

**Resources**
- Play Assessment and Intervention System: www.plaisuno.com
- Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT): www.pcit.org
- National Association of School Psychologists: www.nasponline.org