Use Positive Discipline to Encourage Good Behavior

Try the following to encourage good behavior:

- Praise your children for their accomplishments and their efforts.
- Try to ignore unwanted behavior unless it is causing harm or is destructive. Tell them about the behavior that is annoying to you or other adults.

Use consequences:

Consequences should not be harmful in any way. They should be something your child does not like. For example, take away a toy or certain privileges for a set period of time.

Consequences must be related to the behavior. For example, if your child does not pick up his toys when he is supposed to, take them away for a few hours or a few days, depending on the age of the child.

Have your child choose the consequence. For example, if your child is playing too roughly with other children, you might say, "Your behavior is upsetting me and the other children. You can either play nicely with them OR go for a 'time out.' You decide."

Source: Community Prevention Tips and Resources. Children's Trust of South Carolina.