

10 TIPS



TO HAVING RESPECTFUL CONVERSATIONS ABOUT GENDER STEREOTYPES WITH FAMILIES

1 → **START WITH EMPATHY**

Approach the conversation with understanding and respect for parents' perspectives.

2 → **EXPLAIN WHAT GENDER STEREOTYPES ARE**

Example: societal expectations or beliefs about how boys and girls should behave, based on their gender.

3 → **TALK ABOUT WHY IT'S IMPORTANT TO CHALLENGE STEREOTYPES**

Explain the negative impact of gender stereotypes on children's development, self-esteem, and future opportunities.

4 → **REMIND PARENTS OF WHAT THE EYLF SAYS**

The EYLF requires educators to help all children to explore their cultural, social, gender and linguistic identities.

5 → **EXPLAIN WHY IT'S GOOD TO ADDRESS GENDER STEREOTYPES**

Embracing diversity and allowing children to explore their interests and abilities can lead to creativity, problem-solving skills, and better social interactions.

6 → **GIVE PRACTICAL EXAMPLES**

Offer alternative approaches that promote inclusivity and equality.

7 → SPEAK OPENLY AND RESPECTFULLY

Create a safe space for parents to share their thoughts and concerns.

8 → SHARE YOUR CLASSROOM PRACTICES

Discuss strategies you use to challenge gender stereotypes, such as diverse book selections, inclusive play materials, and allowing all children to participate in various activities.

9 → SHARE RESOURCE IDEAS

Offer recommendations for books, articles, websites, or workshops that parents can explore to further their understanding.

10 → BUILD HOME-SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS

Encourage parents to continue the conversation at home and support their child's healthy development by challenging gender stereotypes outside of school.



Remember, this is a general guideline.

It's important to tailor your approach to each person's unique circumstances and cultural background. The goal is to foster understanding, collaboration and a shared commitment to creating an inclusive environment for all children.



5 TIPS

FOR DISCUSSING HARMFUL GENDER STEREOTYPES WITH YOUR CHILDREN



When speaking to young children about harmful gender stereotypes, it's important for parents to approach the conversation with empathy, openness and age-appropriate language.

1 → **BE A ROLE MODEL**

Model equality and challenge traditional gender roles in your own behaviour. Show them that both genders can engage in a wide range of activities and pursue their interests without limitations.

2 → **PROMOTE DIVERSE ROLE MODELS**

Introduce your children to diverse role models from different genders who have achieved success in various fields using books, movies, and TV shows featuring strong, positive representations of different genders.

3 → **DISCUSS EMOTIONS AND EMPATHY**

Teach your children that all emotions are valid, regardless of what gender they are. Encourage empathy, kindness towards others and that everyone's feelings and experiences matter.

4 → **ENCOURAGE INCLUSIVE PLAY**

Provide opportunities for children to play with a wide range of toys and engage in diverse activities, regardless of gender. Let them know that all children can enjoy and excel in different types of play.

5 → **FOSTER OPEN COMMUNICATION**

Create an open and non-judgmental environment where your children feel comfortable discussing their thoughts and experiences about gender or anything else!