

How Can I Say It?

Sometimes the trickiest part of assessment is figuring the best way to say something clearly but diplomatically. Here is a list of negative behaviors followed by appropriate euphemisms.

| Behavior | Euphemism |
|----------------------------|---|
| Babyish | Is showing signs of immature behavior |
| Bully | Does not get along well with other children |
| Cheats | Needs help in learning to follow rules; Needs to do his or her own work |
| Disliked by other children | Often plays alone |
| Grade level too difficult | Depends upon others to help him/her |
| Inattentive | Spends much time daydreaming |
| Lazy | Needs to take the initiative and get right to work |
| Lies | Has trouble distinguishing reality from fantasy; Needs to be honest with classmates |
| Loud | Needs to develop a quiet voice for the classroom |
| Poor self-esteem | Lacks self-confidence; Seems to be unsure of him/herself |
| Poor sport | Needs to develop a sense of fair play |
| Rude | Needs to develop a respectful attitude towards others |
| Talkative | Talking more than listening; Needs to develop good listening skills; Would rather talk to friends than listen |
| Tardy | Needs to be punctual |