

Welcome to Session 1

Introduction to Conscious Discipline

SESSION OVERVIEW:

- Examine traditional discipline, reflecting on how we've disciplined in the past and why we have continued this pattern.
- Discover one value system that integrates the way we feel on the inside with the way we behave on the outside.
- Explore the mindset shift necessary to help us remain conscious, even in the most challenging moments.



ConsciousDiscipline®



If you are in a group setting, choose a partner for Session 1:

Session 1: Pre-Learning Survey

Let's begin with a little survey to help you measure your perceptual shift as you learn helpful, new information.

1. Connections with children lead to more cooperative behavior.

1	2	3	4	5
Strongly Agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

2. It is possible to make others change if you use the right reward or punishment.

1	2	3	4	5
Strongly Agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

3. All behaviors is a form of communication.

1	2	3	4	5
Strongly Agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

4. Rules govern behavior.

1	2	3	4	5
Strongly Agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

5. Conflict is an opportunity for us to teach.

1	2	3	4	5
Strongly Agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

Introduction

You are in the perfect place, at the perfect time to discover the exact skills and perceptions you require to experience meaningful change.

We must be willing to make two vital shifts to ensure we experience and model healthy relationships with our children:

- Shift from trying to fix the child’s problem to healing our relationships.
- Shift the way we attempt to teach values by flipping the practice of “do as I say, not as I do” to “be the change you want to see in the world.”

Movement is essential. Standing up delivers 10 to 15 percent more blood and oxygen to the brain.

1. The brain is _____-seeking and _____-oriented.
2. Intentional face-to-face moments create _____ juice that includes:
 - Dopamine — “Yahoo!” Says, “Pay attention!”
 - Oxytocin — Bonds with others and builds social trust (moral molecule)
 - Opioids — Decreases pain

Connect

Enjoy the “Little Miss Muffet” *I Love You Ritual* with your partner or child. If you are using a partner, one of you will pretend to be the child and the other will be the adult.

The adult forms a tuffet (or footstool) by gently making a fist.

Little Miss Muffet, sat on a tuffet.

The child uses two fingers to sit on the tuffet.

Eating her oatmeal today.

The child pretends to eat oatmeal.

Along came a spider, that sat down beside her,

The adult uses the other hand to dramatize a spider crawling down to sit beside the child’s Miss Muffet fingers.

And said, “Have a good day!”

Shake hands.



Miss Muffett



Reflect

What did you experience during this moment of connection? _____

Is your mood:

- | | |
|--------------|---------------|
| ___ Lifted | ___ Clearer |
| ___ Lowered | ___ Scattered |
| ___ The same | ___ The same |

Is your focus:

Transformational Change

Fear separates us into “us” and “them.” Conscious Discipline unites us as “we.”

3. Conscious Discipline is based on what type of change?

___ Traditional ___ Transitional ___ Transformational

- Traditional change means we’re going to do the same thing, but do it better, cheaper and faster.
- Transitional change means we’re going to stop doing Behavior A and start doing Behavior B.
- Transformational change requires us to change our mindset as well as our skill set.

Conscious Discipline is an infinite journey into *transformational* change. There is no end.

4. Conscious Discipline asks us to make a mindset shift from “*Do as I say, not as I do*” phrases, actions and intentions to “*be the change,*_____.”

Reflect

Which approach listed above is most closely related to your upbringing? How was that for you and how does it impact you today?

Examining the Way We Teach Values

We learn our values through the human interactions we see, not the words we are told.

What human interactions do you see throughout your day? _____

What human interactions do your children see throughout the day? _____

Typically, our actions teach two value systems:

- When the world is going your way, behave politely and pleasantly.
- When the world is not going your way, it's okay to complain, name-call and behave in other unhelpful ways.

What are your thoughts about this?

How do you believe you teach values to your children?

What values do you teach when you are in an upset state?

We cannot teach values through lectures.

We cannot learn values through someone telling us about them.

We learn our values through personal experience and by watching the human interactions around us.

The interactions children see around them teach them what to value and how to build relationships. Humans possess a social brain; we cannot live without relationships.



A Compassionate Culture of “We”

Conscious Discipline asks us to change our perception of conflict and how we respond to conflict in order to create a compassionate culture of “we,” instead of “us” and “them.”

Reflect

When I hear the word “discipline,” I think of:

To discipline and to teach are the same acts.

Traditional Discipline	Conscious Discipline
It’s possible to make others change if you have the right reward or punishment.	Controlling yourself is possible and can profoundly impact others.
Rules govern behavior.	Connection governs behavior.
Conflict is a disruption and should be avoided.	All behaviors, including conflict and misbehavior, are a form of communication.

Teaching is about giving. Control is about getting.

Do you tend to please others or try to control everything?

If you are in a group setting, share an example of this with your partner. If not, write an example below.

If you try to direct children's behavior through control, fear and manipulation, these will become their core strategies and they will learn to use these same strategies on you.

5. Connections on the _____ with other people build _____ on the inside.

6. These connections wire our brain for _____ and _____.

7. What are the four ingredients necessary for connection?

Our interactions with children literally *shape their brains*.

The Seven Powers of Conscious Adults help us stay regulated enough to access the Seven Skills of Discipline.

Old job description:

My job is to make children behave and their job is to make my job hard.



New job description:

8. My job is to keep it _____ and children's job is to _____.

9. To do this job, I must shift from punishing children to _____ children.

Are you willing to spend time becoming conscious of your intent in regard to discipline? YES NO

Describe what this will look like in your world. _____

3-2-1 Reflections

3 Things you learned... _____

_____ ...

2 Ways you were personally impacted... _____

_____ ...

1 Question you still have... _____

_____ ...

Make a Commitment

Think of the most valuable piece of information you heard during this session. What are you willing to begin implementing right away? Take out your **Reminder Mini-Poster for this session** and write your commitment in the space provided. If you are in a group setting, verbalize this plan to your Commitment Buddy.

Post-Session Survey

Then take a moment to re-read your answers to the Pre-Session Survey on page 4. Reflect on the transformational changes you've already internalized.

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1 Strongly Agree	2 Agree	3 Undecided	4 Disagree	5 Strongly Disagree
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2. It is possible to make others change if you use the right reward or punishment.

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Reflect



Brain Breaks

- “Get Ready” from *It Starts in the Heart*
- “Safekeeper” from *Kindness Counts (Optional)*
- “I Like to be with You” from *Songs for I Love You Rituals, Vol. 2 (Optional)*

Extend Your Learning: Essential Reading

- *Conscious Discipline: Building Resilient Classrooms*, Chapter 1, Introduction to Conscious Discipline (pages 8-29)
- *Easy to Love, Difficult to Discipline*: Chapter 1, From Willful to Willing (pages 1-23)
- *Managing Emotional Mayhem*, Chapter 1, Introduction: Meet Your New BFF: “Hello, Self-Regulation”
- *Creating the School Family*, Chapter 1, The School Culture: Why traditional models are a disadvantage to our children (pages 15-27)

Online Resources

E-Learning

Log-In to your e-Learning Portal at [ConsciousDiscipline.com](https://www.consciousdiscipline.com) to access additional resources and video FAQs for Session 1.

ANSWER KEY: SESSION 1

1. Pattern--seeking / Survival--oriented
2. Joy
3. Transformational
4. You want to see.
5. Outside / Neural Connections
6. Self--Control / Willingness
7. Eye Contact / Touch / Presence / Playful Situations
8. Safe / Help Keep It Safe
9. Teaching