

Level | B-BEE (135%)
Reg No: 2024/123114/07

Acloser look at:

Self-Parenting

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Discover Self-Parenting

Self-parenting involves <u>nurturing</u> your inner child by <u>offering the support</u>, <u>guidance</u>, <u>and boundaries</u> needed to foster emotional growth. It's about <u>healing and caring for yourself</u> as you would for a loved one.

How would you treat yourself if you were someone you loved?



Identify Your Inner Child

Your inner child reflects your earliest experiences and emotions. Recognize it in feelings of vulnerability, joy, or fear that seems disproportionate to the present situation. Pay attention to moments of pure spontaneity or intense emotion as clues.

How do you feel when someone doesn't compliment you as you expected?



Being Your Own Parent

The inner parent should be <u>nurturing</u> and <u>protective</u>. Notice when you're being overly critical or dismissive towards yourself. Replace harsh thoughts with supportive, encouraging messages. Practice being the understanding and compassionate parent you needed or need.

What encouragement or support would you offer to those you love or a child?

Communication

Engage with your inner child by initiating conversations that you would have with a young child. Approach these dialogues with empathy, patience, and unconditional love. Ask open-ended questions. Listen to these inner responses without judgment and respond compassionately. This practice helps heal old wounds and builds a relationship within yourself.

"What are you feeling right now?" or "What do you need to feel safe?"

Establish Boundaries

Setting boundaries is akin to drawing a protective circle around your inner child.

- Identify your <u>limits</u>.
- Teach yourself to <u>say 'no'</u> to demands that stretch these limits
- <u>Communicate</u> your needs clearly to others <u>without guilt</u>, asserting your right to privacy, rest, and respect.
- Consistently upholding these boundaries nurtures a sense of <u>safety and self-respect</u>.



Nurturing Routines

Consistent, comforting routines are vital for your inner child's sense of stability and security. Incorporate activities into your daily schedule that foster calm and happiness, such as morning meditations, regular reading times, or evening walks. These activities should be ones that you genuinely enjoy and that help soothe and reassure your inner child.

If you are not sure, reflect on what are some activities you enjoyed as a child.

- Building a puzzle, reading...

Professional Help

While self-parenting can be empowering, it's important to recognize when professional guidance is needed. If you find yourself overwhelmed by emotions, or if your self-parenting efforts stir up unresolved trauma or deep-seated anxiety, seek psychological support.

A mental health professional can provide the expertise and support needed to navigate these complexities safely.



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