

TURN YOUR WORDS INTO GOLD

Enforceable Statements

UNENFORCEABLE	ENFORCEABLE
Please sit down. We are going to eat now.	You may eat as soon as you are seated.
Please be quiet. I can't listen to your brother when you are both talking at the same time.	I will be happy to listen to you as soon as your brother has finished talking to me.
Clean your room so we can go shopping.	I will be happy to take you shopping as soon as your room is clean.
I am not going to play ball with you until all of you are quiet.	I will play ball with you as soon as it is quiet.
Don't talk while I am reading to you.	I will start reading to you again, as soon as you have finished talking.
You can't go play until you have finished your work.	Feel free to go play as soon as you have finished your work.
Don't shout at me.	I listen to people who do not yell at me. (OR) I listen to people who speak to me with a calm (soft) voice.
Keep your hands to yourself.	You are welcome to stay with us when you keep your hands to yourself.
You are not going out without your coat.	You may go out as soon as you have your coat.
If you can't treat other kids right, you will have to leave the game.	All kids who treat each other with respect are welcome to join us in the game.
Stop arguing with me!	I will discuss this with you as soon as the arguing stops.
Don't call out.	I will listen to kids who raise their hands.

Rather than threaten or say what you don't want....try using language that says what you do want, what you will do, what will happen.