



Common Emotional & Behavioral Reactions

Ages 1 to 5	Ages 6 to 10	Ages 11 to 18
 ✓ Disobedience ✓ Fear of being alone, bad dreams ✓ Speech difficulties ✓ Loss of bladder/bowel control, constipation, bed-wetting ✓ Change in appetite ✓ Increased temper tantrums, whining, or clinging behaviors 	 ✓ Disobedience ✓ Irritability, whining, aggressive behavior ✓ Clinging, nightmares ✓ Sleep/appetite disturbance ✓ Physical symptoms (headaches, stomachaches ✓ Withdrawal from peers, loss of interest ✓ Competition for parents' attention ✓ Forgetfulness about chores and new information learned 	 ✓ Rebellious ✓ Physical symptoms (headaches, rashes, etc.) ✓ Sleep/appetite disturbance ✓ Agitation or decrease in energy, apathy ✓ Ignoring health promotion behaviors ✓ Isolating from peers and loved ones ✓ Concerns about stigma and injustices



How to Help Your Child

Ages 1 to 5	Reaction	How to Help
	 ✓ Fear of being alone, bad dreams ✓ Speech difficulties ✓ Loss of bladder/bowel control, constipation, bed-wetting ✓ Change in appetite ✓ Increased temper tantrums, whining, or clinging behaviors 	 ✓ Patience and tolerance ✓ Provide reassurance (verbal and physical) ✓ Encourage expression through play, reenactment, story-telling ✓ Allow short-term changes in sleep arrangements ✓ Plan calming, comforting activities before bedtime ✓ Maintain regular family routines ✓ Avoid media exposure



Ages 6 to 10	Reaction	How to Help
	 ✓ Irritability, whining, aggressive behavior ✓ Clinging, nightmares ✓ Sleep/appetite disturbance ✓ Physical symptoms (headaches, stomachaches ✓ Withdrawal from peers, loss of interest ✓ Competition for parents' attention ✓ Forgetfulness about chores and new information learned 	 ✓ Play sessions and staying in touch with friends through telephone and Internet ✓ Regular exercise and stretching Engage in educational activities (workbooks, educational games) ✓ Participate in structured household chores ✓ Set gentle but firm limits ✓ Discuss the current outbreak and encourage questions. ✓ Include what is being done in the family and community ✓ Encourage expression through play and conversation ✓ Help family create ideas for enhancing health promotion behaviors and maintaining family routines ✓ Limit media exposure, talking about what they have seen/heard ✓ Address any stigma or discrimination occurring and clarify misinformation



Ages 13 to 18	Reaction	How to Help
	 ✓ Physical symptoms (headaches, rashes, etc.) ✓ Sleep/appetite disturbance ✓ Agitation or decrease in energy, apathy ✓ Ignoring health promotion behaviors ✓ Isolating from peers and loved ones ✓ Concerns about stigma and injustices ✓ Avoidance 	 ✓ Patience, tolerance, and reassurance ✓ Encourage continuation of routines ✓ Encourage discussion of outbreak experience with peers, family (but do not force) ✓ Stay in touch with friends through telephone, Internet, video games ✓ Participate in family routines, including chores, supporting younger siblings, and planning strategies to enhance health promotion behaviors ✓ Limit media exposure, talking about what they have seen/heard ✓ Discuss and address stigma, prejudice and potential injustices occurring during outbreak