



OFFICE OF
Early Learning
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Balancing Act - Negotiating the Use of Power

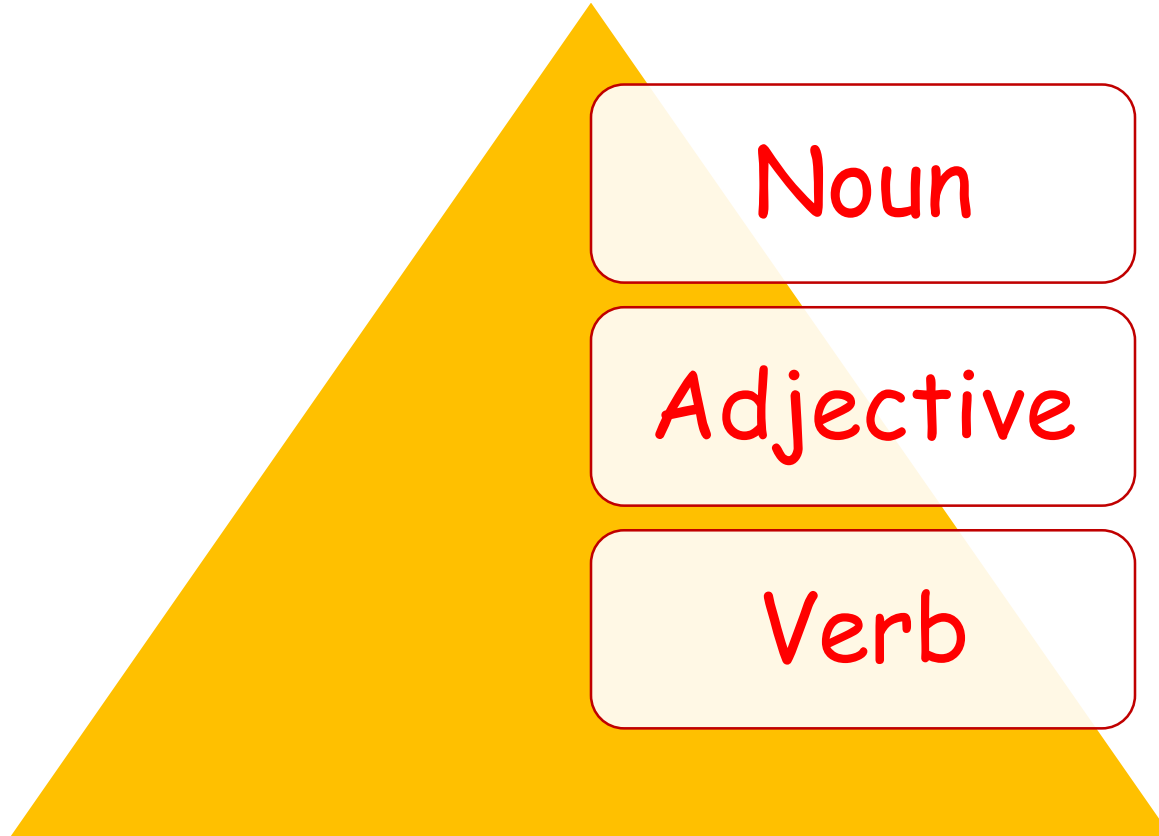
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Power



Working Definition

Power means having the capacity to make a difference, to have worth or value.

How does this meaning of power apply in the classroom?

Who is in Charge?

Adults have the power in
the lives of children.

What things do adults control?

The Need



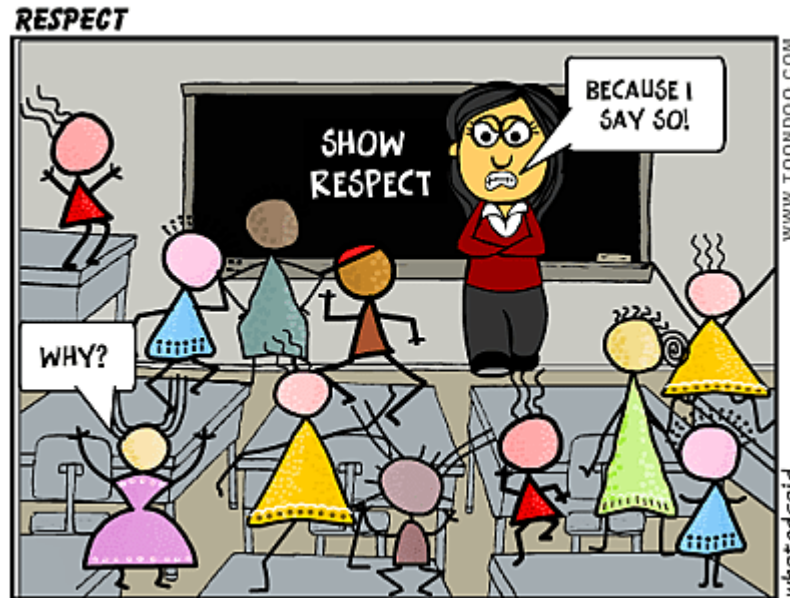
Children have a need for power.

Families

What about the families, should/do they have “power” in the classroom?



“Power Over”



Using power to prevent an action.

“Power For”

Using power to
engage
(coach/ scaffold.)



“Power With”



Using power
side by side
(sharing.)

“Power Within”

Using power
within to
empower



Reflection

Take a moment and think about:

1. the types of power utilized currently in the early childhood classroom;
2. which types of power feel most comfortable?

Approaches

- Children generated activities
- Positive encouragement and affirmation
- Afford children responsibility (genuine responsibilities)



Rewind - Power

Noun

Adjective

Verb



In Closing ...



Questions?



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