Anne Arundel County Public Schools Office of School & Family Partnerships Parent Workshops to Go 2012 **Positive Parenting** Handout 3

TIPS FOR PRAISING YOUR CHILD

♦ When you praise your child be specific. Describe the behavior that you want to see. (For example, "You put your coat in the closet when you came home from school today.")

- ◆ Add a praise to the description (For example, "Thank you for..., I really like it when..., I appreciate it when..., It is so nice when..., I found it really helpful that you...")
- Give the praise as close to the behavior as possible.
 Only praise while your child is engaging in good behavior.
- ◆ Praise as many aspects of your child's behavior as you can (such as, cooperativeness, compliance, use of intelligence, use of judgment, social skills, expressiveness, willingness to help).
- ◆ Praise accomplishments and EFFORTS.
- ◆ Don't underestimate the power of adding some physical affection to your praise (a big hug, cuddle, kiss).
- ◆ Use praise in sincere and genuine ways.
- ◆ Don't use the word "but!" (for example, don't say, "I really liked that you did your homework today, BUT, you should have done it before dinner".)