

**Parenting Tips
from
Community Parenting Service
6a Penrith PI
BALGA WA 6061
Phone: 9440 0011
Opening times : Monday to Friday 12 PM to 4 PM**

Children and Lying

Most children will go through a stage in their lives where spinning yarns and telling lies is common. In their preschool years children will sometimes mix up reality and fantasy and may tell stories without deliberately telling lies. Primary school children will have learnt the difference between reality and fantasy and may tell lies for a range of reasons, which could include:

- to avoid the consequences of their actions;
- because they have heard their parents tell lies;
- to gain approval and acceptance from their friends.

How can you best deal with a situation where lying has become an issue for you and your child?

- Discuss the problem with your child
- Tell your child how you feel about their lying and that you would like them to stop.
- Ask your child for their opinion as to why they felt they needed to lie.
- Talk about the consequences and decide what will happen if you find your child is not telling the truth.
- Encourage your child to tell the truth by:
 - Providing opportunities for them to tell the truth.
 - Praising them when you hear them telling the truth.
 - Developing a contract with your child about telling the truth.

We invite you to visit our Centre to 'check out' the wide range of information that we have available for you to browse or borrow.