[BRINGS YOU]

SCRIPTS AND AFFIRMATIONS

To eat and live with confidence and connection



PATRIZIA VISCONTI

"Good job, you finished it! I'm so proud of you." "You asked for more pasta. Now you eat it."

"But look, all the other kids are eating it."

"There are kids dying of hunger in other countries. Finish your food"

Traditional scripts to LET GO

"Be a good kid and clean your plate."

"You're going to get a tummy ache if you keep eating that." (forever)

"One more bite for mommy, okay?" "

"Two more bites and then you can go play."

"After you finish your dinner, I'll give you dessert."

"...but I made this food with so much love, just for you."



Common scripts we could change

Instead of:

"How do you know you don't like lentils, if you haven't tried them."

"Just two more bites and then you'll be done."

"Don't be rude, at least try it!"

"You've already had too many sweets, no more."

Try:

"Did you know that foods sometimes taste very different from how they look? You can try them and see what you think.

"What is your belly telling you? are you satisfied enough?

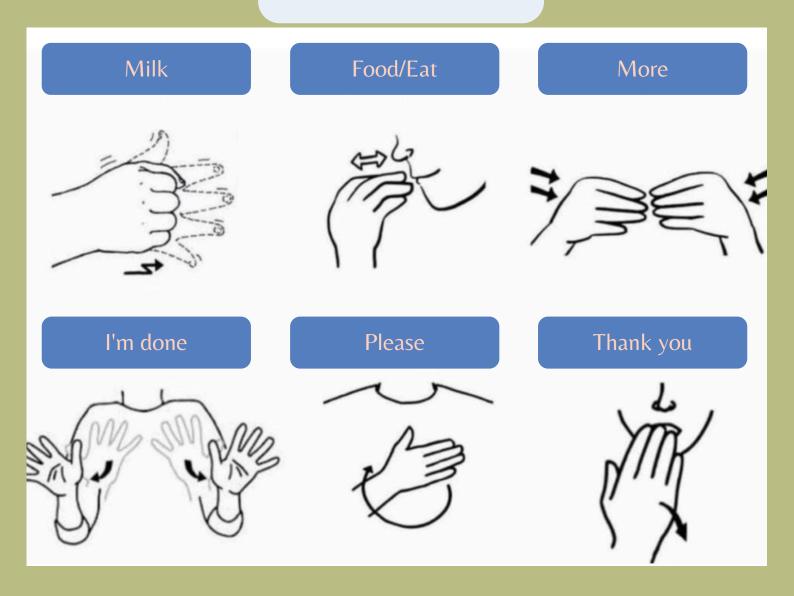
"You could say: no thanks, I'm not in the mood for that."

"There are 3 cookies for each one of you."

Scripts to say "No" in a neutral way (to avoid labeling foods as "good" or "bad")

"It's not time to eat yet, but it will be very soon."
"Right now we need to do (insert your own action), we can have that later."
"We just had breakfast, we can have that later."
"That's not on today's menu, I can make that tomorrow."
"Not today. Thank you for letting me know you really like it. I'll always keep that in mind."
"I know they all look really good. There's one piece for everyone. Which one would you like?"
"I'm sorry sweetie, going out for ice cream is not in the schedule for today. we can go"
"We have to share. Here's your piece."
"I'm sorry sweetie, not today."
"This is for tomorrow. Thank you for being patient."

Sign language to empower your baby while eating



*Gross motor skills develop before language skills. For this reason, sometimes it's easier and more practical to start with sign language for communicating our needs.

This is especially useful for children on the spectrum or children with language difficulties.



Scripts for when your child likes a new food

(INSTEAD OF SAYING "GOOD JOB")

Say nothing "I see you (since tried happy it's the _____, something I liked it you happy." normal) too.

"It makes me that it makes

*In order for our children to eat in a connected way, we have to trust their instincts and physiological needs and allow them to eat, without the need to alter them to fulfill or please us, as parents.



Teach your child to say the following:

Respect my decision

You be you, and I'll be me

My body, my decision

I said no.

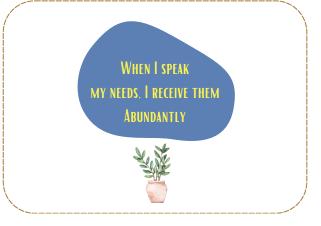
(when someone insists)

I don't feel comfortable doing that, I won't do it.

Stop! I don't like that

Affirmations





MY FEELINGS DESERVE TO BE
TO BE IDENTIFIED. THEY DESERVE TO BE
RECOGNIZED.
MY FEELINGS DESERVE TO BE FELT.





I HONOR WHAT
MY BODY NEEDS
AND HOW IT
FEELS.







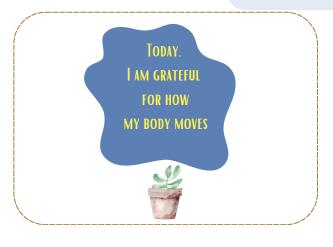
l strive for <u>joy.</u> Not perfection.



I AM IN <u>CONTROL</u> OF HOW I RESPOND TO THINGS THAT CHALLENGE ME.



Affirmations





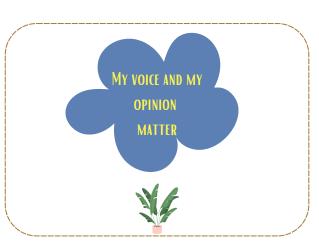














Scripts that cultivate body diversity

RESPECT

All bodies are worthy and deserve to be treated with respect.

NEEDS

All bodies are unique, that's why everyone's needs are as well.

SINGULARITY

We all live in bodies of different sizes, shapes and colors.

WORTH

There is no such thing as bodies being better than others, they're all worthy.



Instead of saying "I didn't like it"
(or saying nothing and continue eating)
Try this:

"Although this looks delicious, I'm used to other textures and tastes".

"I'm sure this is delicious to most people, however, it's not a taste I personally enjoy"

"Thank you for making this dish! I'm learning to expand my taste preferences, and I'm not a fan of this particular flavor yet.

"It's very kind of you to offer!

I have a sensitive palate and this is not a taste for me.

"You know I truly admire your culinary skills and while I'm very grateful for this meal you prepared, it's not a taste I personally enjoy."

Instead of saying "I didn't like it"
(or saying nothing and continue eating)
Try this:

"I've tried it, I'm fine for now and don't want any more.

Thank you very much."

"I'm still satisfied with what I ate.
Thank you for offering!"

"I appreciate your effort very much, at the same time, I want to honor my *preferences" *You can also use: my body, my taste, my bodily signals.

Children 3 and up: "It's not for me, thank you".

"I don't like it yet" "I'm learning to like it."

Infants and toddlers: "No thanks" (or simply "No").

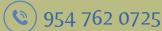


THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE

I'd to thank you for being part of the 'Empowered Eaters' community and for taking the steps to grow and become better parents (also better eaters) every day!

By learning and supporting our bodies and intuition (and our children's), we'll raise a generation that doesn't have to heal their relationship with food or their bodies.

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