#### **HANDOUT 6A**

Which of the following rules are clear and effective rules that a child is most likely to understand and be able to follow?

# 1. Call or text if you get a ride home from school with someone else.

Answer: Yes, this is a clear rule because it communicates what the parent wants.

# 2. Don't play video games while you do your homework.

Answer: No, this is not a clear rule. The rule would be clearer stated "Turn off video games when you are doing your homework" because it tells the child what the parent wants them to do and is specific.

# 3. Don't yell in the house.

Answer: No, this is not a clear rule because it tells the child what the parent does not want them to do but doesn't specify what the parent does want. A clear rule would be: "Please use a calm tone of voice in the house."

### 4. Lights need to be out by 9:30 p.m.

Answer: Yes, this is a clear rule. It states what the parent wants and designates a time for the behavior.

#### 5. No slamming doors.

Answer: No, this is not a clear rule. It states what the parent does not want, rather than what they do want. A clear rule would be "Close doors quietly" because it tells the child what the parent wants them to do.

### 6. Do you want to do your homework before you watch TV?

Answer: No, this is not a clear rule because the rule is stated as a question.