

Positive Guidance Strategies Participant Sessions

I. Social-Emotional Development & Challenging Behavior

Introduction of strategies and overview

II. Oral Language Development for Infants, Toddlers, and Preschoolers

Develop Reasonable and Fair Limits: Rules encourage self-control, protect the health and safety of children, and encourage respectful treatment of others.

State Limits Effectively: Tell children what to do, not what not to do; be as positive as possible.

III. Oral Language Development for Infants, Toddlers, and Preschoolers (contd.)

Communicate Limits to Others/Review Limits Periodically: Communicate limits to everyone who walks into the setting; communicate information on limits to parents.

IV. Phonological/Phonemic Awareness for Infants, Toddlers, and Preschoolers

Use Natural and Logical Consequences: Punishment focuses on the misbehavior, does not teach more appropriate behaviors, and may cause misbehavior to worsen. The use of natural and logical consequences that occur immediately and relate to the behavior can result in a change to more appropriate behavior.

V. Phonological/Phonemic Awareness for Infants, Toddlers, and Preschoolers (contd.)

Help Children Accept Limits: Go to the child and get the child's attention; give reasons for the limits.

Encourage Children's Efforts to Accept Limits and to Be Cooperative or Helpful: Encourage the behavior becoming "self-encouraging" (develop ways that a child will find new behavior so attractive that she will eagerly comply); observe children to determine whether they have learned what they need to learn and whether they have accepted a limit; recognize and encourage a child's efforts.

VI. Concepts About Books and Print for Infants, Toddlers, and Preschoolers

Teach Helpful or Appropriate Behavior: *Teach children behaviors that will help them the most. (Ex: How to ask for something; how to listen and not interrupt; how to join a group; how to complete work and put things away; skills for participating in a group; mealtime manners; how to wash hands properly.)*

Set Up Practice Sessions and Give “On-the-Spot” Guidance: *Give children a chance to practice what you tell them; provide guidance to practice.*

VII. Concepts About Books and Print for Infants, Toddlers, and Preschoolers (contd.)

Ignore Behavior (Only When It is Appropriate to Do So): *Ignoring inappropriate behavior can extinguish the behavior. Dangerous or hurtful behaviors cannot be ignored.*

VIII. Alphabetic Principle for Infants, Toddlers, & Preschoolers

Listen Actively: *Focus on what the child says and the feelings behind the words without interrupting, then feedback perceptions of the feelings.*

IX. Comprehension and Motivation for Infants, Toddlers, & Preschoolers

Change Something About a Context or Situation: *Change the physical setting; increase or decrease options available to the child.*

X. Early Writing Behaviors and Skills for Infants, Toddlers, and Preschoolers

Redirect Children’s Behavior – Divert and Distract the Youngest Children: *Distract the child and get him involved in different (appropriate) behavior.*

Redirect Children’s Behavior - Make Substitutions When Dealing with Older Children: *Give a child an appropriate substitution for a behavior.*

XI. Early Numeracy Development for Infants, Toddlers, and Preschoolers

Recognize Signs of Stress, Anxiety, or Strong Emotion; Prevent Overstimulation and Teach Calming Techniques: *Children often have difficulty controlling themselves when they are under stress. Teachers can recognize this and help the child by preventing overstimulation and teaching the child ways to calm down.*

XII. Early Numeracy Development for Infants, Toddlers, and Preschoolers (contd.)

Help Children Save Face and Preserve Their Dignity: *No matter what the discipline technique used, the teacher needs to help the child move beyond it and get on with classroom activities.*

XIII. Embedding Literacy Into the Learning Centers

Teach Conflict Resolution (Problem-Solving): *Conflict is inevitable and can be a learning experience; develop and teach strategies where all can win and no one loses.*

XIV. Pulling It All Together