



# A Practical Guide to Promoting Child Learning

## INVITE + ENGAGE + TEACH

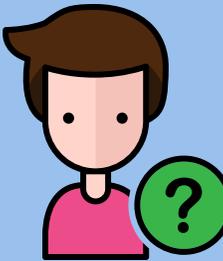
### Teaching Caregiver Responsiveness



#### What does it mean to be “responsive?”

The caregiver is:

- tuned in to the child’s interests, body language, body position, and communicative intents.
- able to respond immediately to the child’s cues.
- willing to try new things to support the child.
- eager to use the child’s interests to teach her something new.



#### Why is it important?

Because children learn best when:

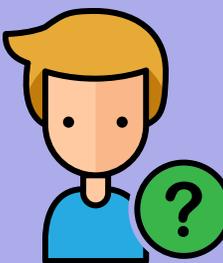
- they are being supported by the important people in their lives.
- they are having fun, not aware of being taught something.
- they are engaged for longer periods.
- the learning takes place during naturally occurring routines or activities that are part of their typical day.



#### How does it work?

When responsive, the caregiver can use various strategies to:

- **invite** the child into a routine or invite oneself into an activity the child is showing interest in.
- **engage** the child for longer periods of time, which allows for more practice and learning.
- **teach** the child something new or enhance the learning that is already taking place.



#### What does it look like?

Support a caregiver with helping a child to take his first steps by sharing the **invite** strategy of getting on his level. Then, explain the **engage** strategy of using his interests by pointing to his favorite car across the room. Finally, prompt the caregiver to **teach** him to walk by supporting him to move towards the toy while encouraging him to get there.

Assist a caregiver with helping a child learn to brush her teeth by herself by presenting the **invite** strategy of taking the child by the hand to lead her to the bathroom. Then, with permission, ask the child's big sister to join in and use the child's interest of wanting to do everything the big sister does to **engage** her in the activity. Finally, share the **teach** strategy of the caregiver and sister showing the child what it looks like to brush teeth as they talk about the steps.



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