

Caregiver Responsive Strategies to Promote Child Learning

Invite • Engage • Teach

GUIDE TO RESPONSIVE CAREGIVING STRATEGIES

Children learn best when they are engaged in daily routines with people they know. Children have more chances to learn when routines include their interests. This booklet can help you support your child's learning.

STEPS TO HELP YOUR CHILD LEARN

1

Watch the cues your child uses to tell you what they like and don't like.

2

Use your child's cues to help you choose helpful ways to **invite** your child into an activity or routine.

3

Use your child's cues to help you choose ways to **engage**, keep your child engaged, or re-engage your child in an activity.

4

Once your child is engaged, **teach** your child something new or help your child practice something they are learning.

Child Cues

Child cues are the ways your child responds to you and shows you they are ready to learn. Some of the cues children use to communicate with you are:

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Moving to the parent | <input type="checkbox"/> Frowning | <input type="checkbox"/> Hitting, grabbing, or biting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shifting body | <input type="checkbox"/> Crying or whining | <input type="checkbox"/> Moving away from you |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Naming simple emotions | <input type="checkbox"/> Smiling/laughing | <input type="checkbox"/> Giving you something |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Using sounds, but no words | <input type="checkbox"/> Getting excited | <input type="checkbox"/> Using one or two words |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pointing, reaching for, or looking at an interest | <input type="checkbox"/> Using sign language | <input type="checkbox"/> Using multiple words phrases |
| <input type="checkbox"/> _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |

Invite

Invite strategies are the ways you can tune in and set the stage for learning. These strategies create a space and send messages that help your child feel ready to join in. Some Invite strategies are:

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Smiling/laughing | <input type="checkbox"/> Using multiple word phrases | <input type="checkbox"/> Using a sad voice |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Watch where the child is looking | <input type="checkbox"/> Naming simple emotions | <input type="checkbox"/> Showing calmness |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gesturing (hugging) | <input type="checkbox"/> Using an inviting voice | <input type="checkbox"/> Demonstrating or modeling |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Using sign language | <input type="checkbox"/> Using an excited voice | <input type="checkbox"/> Taking the child by the hand |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Holding hands | <input type="checkbox"/> Using a quiet voice | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Using one or two word | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |

Engage

Engage strategies are all the ways you can keep your child going in an activity. Some Engage strategies are:

- Start playing with your child by doing the same thing they are doing.
- Position your child to help them be successful.
- Always respond immediately and positively to your child.
- See your child's interest or concerns the same way they do.
- Let your child know that you see they are ready to play or do things together.
- Let your child know you understand what they are feeling and telling you.
- Recognize, accept, and name your child's feelings.
- Listen until your child is finished telling you things.
- Help your child with the most frustrating parts of the activity.
- Let your child know when they has been successful.
- _____

Teach

Teach strategies are the ways you can help your child practice what he or she knows and learn new skills. Some Teach strategies are:

- Add new activities that let your child practice what they are learning.
- Show your child new ways to do things.
- Let your child decide what and how they want to do activities that interest them.
- Add things to what your child is doing to help they understand and learn new things.
- Help your child practice being responsible when they make a mistake.
- Continue your child's successful activities to make them last longer.
- Increase how often your child is a part of activities they like to do.
- Use your child's interests to help them be a part of everyday activities.
- Start and wait for your child to respond, to practice taking turns, or finish the task.
- Use your child's interest to help them figure things out.
- Begin with small steps and gradually increase what your child does.
- Other _____