

Supporting Children's Intentions

- ❑ Focus on children's strengths and interests.
 - What is the child doing now? Pay close attention to children as they explore and play. Be on or at the child's level.
 - How can you support the child's continued interaction with materials he enjoys?
 - Engage in communication give and take with children. Learn to read "signals."

- ❑ Anticipate children's interactions.
 - Understand the importance of sensory-motor explorations and the child as "explorer" and "scientist."
 - Understand how to make best use of assessment data.

- ❑ Encourage and acknowledge children's choices in exploration and play.
 - Say what you see and learn how to be "attentively present." Learn when to ask questions, when to make comments, and when to stay silent.

- ❑ Help children achieve what they set out to do.
 - Learn the art of scaffolding.
 - Understand what it means to engage in joint attention.

- ❑ Give children time to solve problems they encounter with materials.
 - Become familiar with each child's level of "tolerable stress" and "reasonable challenge."
 - Support children's developing capacities for self-regulation.

- ❑ Support children in resolving social conflict.
 - Learn the steps of effective active problem solving fine-tuned for young preschoolers.