

## Providing Feedback that Supports Engagement and Learning

Narrator: Hello, and welcome to this short presentation on providing feedback that supports engagement and learning. This presentation highlights the key purpose and describes the important feedback strategies that teachers can use when interacting with their students. The National Center on Quality Teaching and Learning uses the House framework to show the necessary teaching and learning components that support school readiness for all children.

This short module on providing feedback fits into the foundation. It is one in a series of in-services that comprise engaging instructional interactions. There are three main ways that teachers provide quality feedback, or feedback that truly supports engagement and learning. This feedback occurs within the context of back-and-forth exchanges between the teacher and the child as they participate in a learning activity, whether it's a planned activity or an interaction that occurs during playtime or during routines. This is the kind of feedback that teachers use to expand on children's understanding.

One way that teachers provide good and useful feedback is by involving the child in meaningful back-and-forth exchanges. The teacher might make comments or ask probing questions that help the child go beyond a simple response and help the child elaborate on the concept or connect the knowledge with other things he or she already knows.

Teacher: What happens if we have ice over here and then the sun came out? How do you feel when the sun came out?

Girl: Uh, hot.

Teacher: Hot. So, the sun is going to make what?

Girl: Warm.

Teacher: It's going to warm. When the sun came out, you feel warm. So, the warm makes the ice what?

Girl: Warm. If-- if-- if...

Teacher: The sun makes the ice what?

Girl: Melt.

Teacher: To get hard or to -- to melt, very good. You thought about it!

Narrator: Another way that teachers provide feedback that supports engagement and learning is to ask children to explain their thought processes. Teachers can ask "how" or "why" questions, or simply say, "Tell me a little bit more about that." Teachers use their attention and their questions and comments to show children that they are genuinely interested in what they know and how they know it.

Girl: The blue box is the re-use trash and the green box -- and the green trash box, is it trash?

Teacher: You were talking about the recycle bin.

Girl: Uh-huh.

Teacher: Ahhh. What things do you put inside the recycle bin?

Girl: Uh, paper?

Teacher: Paper, awesome. Can you think of anything else?

Narrator: And another way that teachers provide valuable feedback is by acknowledging and praising children's efforts. Teachers do this by paying attention, giving specific comments, and pointing out how the child or children are trying and making an effort. Encouraging effort is a useful method for helping children learn to persist in tasks or activities that might be a bit of a challenge.

Teacher: It's tough, but we've got to keep going. There you go. There you go, Elizabeth. You did it! Did your hands get sore? Hey, do you see -- look what you did! You got one, two, three, four pieces. Can I

keep these? And I will show them to your mom when I meet her -- meet her again, okay? Finger bump. Boop!

Narrator: There are many opportunities for teachers to provide effective feedback throughout the day and in a variety of activities. In the context of almost any interaction, the teacher can encourage, ask questions, and keep taking turns to help the child more fully understand the concept, practice the skill, or apply their learning to new situations. Teachers need to be keen observers and careful listeners, so that they can add a turn to the interaction that supports children's learning.

This short presentation highlighted the ways that teachers can provide feedback that supports children's engagement and learning. Three strategies were described that teachers can use when interacting with children to expand on their understanding. Please see our tips and tools and helpful resources that accompany this presentation, "Providing Feedback that Supports Engagement and Learning." Thank you for listening.