

Partnering with Families: Building Positive Goal-Oriented Relationships

Module 3 Learning Activity: Tools for Building Relationships with Families

Finley's Parent-Teacher Conference

Observing how other people effectively use Strengths-based Attitudes and Relationship-based Practices can help support those same practices and attitudes in your work with families and children. Watch how one teacher uses these tools to build a Positive Goal-Oriented Relationship with a family. Read the following directions and complete this exercise by yourself or with a group.

1. Review the Relationship-based Practices and Strengths-based Attitudes in Module 3 of the e-learning course and in the pocket guide, below.
2. Watch the video: [Finley's Parent-Teacher Conference](#).
3. Consider the following discussion questions:
 - Which of the Strengths-based Attitudes and Relationship-based Practices did you notice the teacher using to engage the family?
 - What did the teacher do or say that demonstrated her use of these attitudes and practices?
 - Did you observe any missed opportunities to use the attitudes and practices?
 - What might you do differently?
4. Reflect on your answers to these questions. How do Positive Goal-Oriented Relationships contribute to progress toward family and child outcomes?

*Special thanks to the Colorado Department of Education for allowing us to use this video.

Tools for Building Relationships with Families

Strength-based Attitudes

- Families are the first and most important teachers of their children
- Families are our partners with a critical role in their families development
- Families have expertise about their child and their family
- Families' contributions are important and valuable

Relationship-based Practices

- Observe and describe the child's behavior to open communication with the family
- Reflect on the family's perspective
- Support competence
- Focus on the family-child relationship
- Value a family's passion
- Reflect on your own perspective