

Coaching

General Questions:

- What have you tried so far?
- Tell me more about that.
- Is that something you want to explore more?
- What have you noticed about....?
- What ideas do you have?
- What are you thinking of trying?
- What are some other options you have thought of?

General Comments:

- That sounds frustrating
- What I'm hearing you say is.....
- Validate- that is a valid concern – what ideas do you have to help in a solution?
- I wonder what would happen if.....
- What do you think about...
- Say what I see...Ask what I don't see

*This section was taken from Parents as Teachers Curriculum

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Everyday Prompts*

Opening:

- What have you noticed about him since last time?
- We planned last time to...do you have anything to add?

PCI:

- Let's see what he does...
- I noticed when you...then he..
- What do you think he is learning by doing that?
- I see how his face lights up when you....
- What do you think he is telling you?

Developmental Centered Parenting:

- Why do you think he does that?
- When he does that what do you usually do?
- Now that he is ...What is your next step?

Family Well Being:

- What would you like to see happen?
- Have you been in this situation before? What'd you do then?
- Have you noticed it affecting him? How?

Closing:

- Today we talked about...
- How do you feel it went?
- Next time we will focus on..

Parenting Behaviors*

Nurturing

- Celebrates/Warm
- Accepts emotions
- Consoles/affection
- Anticipates needs
- Safe place

Designing/Guiding

- Reasonable expectations
- Sets limits & consequences
- Supportive directions
- Safe place to learn
- Family routines
- Teaches as part of discipline
- Models feelings

Responding

- Reaction to cues
- Open to child's agenda
- Considers temperament
- Acknowledge child efforts
- Models turn taking

Communicating

- Labels & points
- Replies to child
- Labels & responds to nonverbal
- Reads & sings
- Conversational ?s

Supporting Learning

- Strengthens skills
- Supplies new words/Play/ideas
- Open-ended ?s
- Wonders w/child
- Motivates & helps
- Support independence

Quick Tips for Coaching

- Hand the toy/activity to the parent
- Sit back, be quiet and observe the parent-child interaction
- Make observations using “when/then” statements- “Did you notice when you asked him to bring you the book, then he brought it over and backed up in to your lap ready to read.”
- Try to make everything you do in the context of the families daily routine- if language is the focus then discuss times in their day they can use parallel talking (diapering/bathing)
- Think about your intervention more broadly- remember your role as the coach
- Follow the families lead for play and for topics to discuss
- Narrate what the parent is doing- this can help connect what they are doing to development (connecting what you see to what you know as a professional)
- Speak for the child- “When you went to get his bottle he made this face like his world was ending- and it kind of felt that way to him cause you are his world.”
- Be that person in the parent’s life to provide them with positive reinforcements- “look at how you made her smile!”
- Remember even when a family is in crisis- that child is still developing- so how is the crisis affecting the child?

Go to Questions

- Tell me about your daily routine.
- When do you interact/play with her- what time of day?
- What things do you guys enjoy doing together?
- What have you noticed about her _____? (language/tantrums/etc)
- Does he always like new things or is he sometimes wary?
- Link action to question- “when you asked about weaning from the binky, he covered his mouth and said no- Why do you think he did that?”
- When could you see yourself doing this activity/strategy with her?
- What I hear you saying is _____ - that must be hard. What do you want to change- what would success look like?
- Tell me more about that.
- What have you tried so far? How did that work?