

5 Things to Do Today to Lessen Challenging Behaviors Tomorrow

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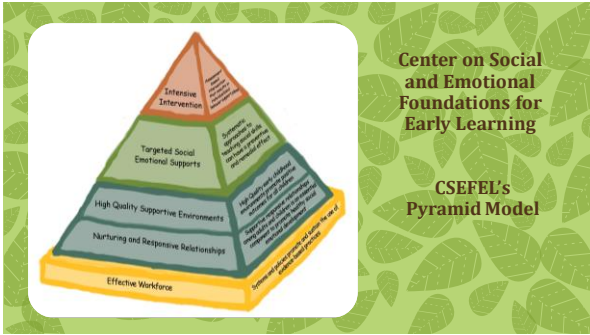
Learning Objectives

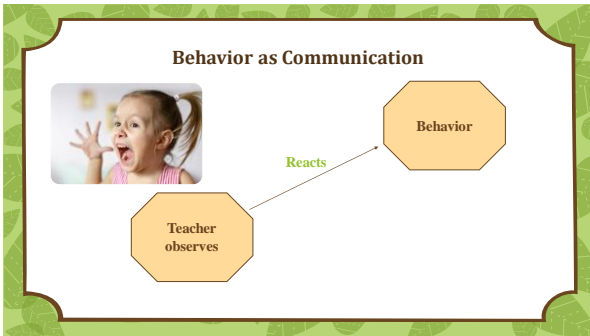
You will be able to articulate how children's behavior is a form of communication

You will be able to list and apply the five components of active learning

You will be able to identify and rectify five common causes of children's challenging behavior

When a flower doesn't bloom you fix the environment in which it grows, not the flower.
- Alexander Den Heijer





If Behavior Is Communication ...

What does that mean for how we handle challenging behaviors?

The collage includes:

- A photograph of a young boy in a red shirt sitting on the floor.
- An illustration of a brown door with a sign that says "PRINCIPAL" and a small figure of a person standing next to it.
- A large grid of colorful icons representing various behaviors and emotions, such as "Crying", "Hitting", "Running", "Screaming", "Staying on task", "Following directions", "Sharing", "Cooperating", "Respecting personal space", "Respecting others' personal space", "Respecting others' property", "Respecting others' belongings", "Respecting others' privacy", "Respecting others' boundaries", "Respecting others' needs", "Respecting others' wishes", "Respecting others' feelings", "Respecting others' thoughts", "Respecting others' opinions", "Respecting others' beliefs", "Respecting others' values", "Respecting others' traditions", "Respecting others' customs", "Respecting others' culture", "Respecting others' identity", "Respecting others' self", "Respecting others' community", "Respecting others' world".



an ideal culture is one
in which there is a place
for every human gift.
-margaret mead

The Power of
Proactivity



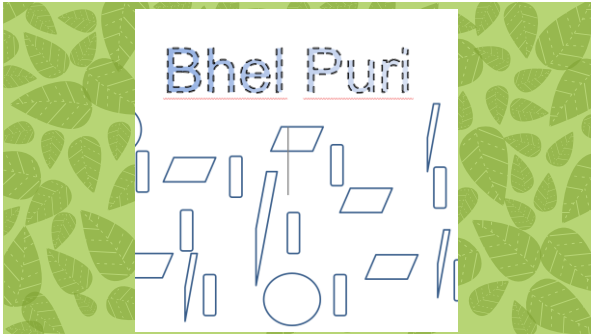
Ready to Learn Something New?

"YOU LEARN SOMETHING NEW EVERYDAY"

FALSE
YOU LEARN SOMETHING OLD EVERY DAY. JUST
BECAUSE YOU'VE JUST LEARNED IT DOESN'T MEAN
IT'S NEW! OTHER PEOPLE ALREADY KNEW IT.



Bhel Puri

















Factor 1: Lack of Active Learning

HOMES

Hands-on
Open-ended
Meaningful
Engaging
Sensory-oriented







"I love church buildings, particularly cathedrals. And I like living in spaces that remind me of music or evoke that creative energy." —Laura Mvula



Factor 3: Movement = Outside

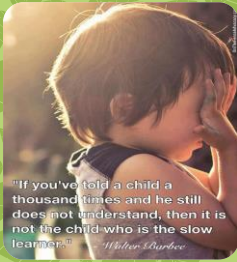
Sensible children always run.
Walking is slower and not much fun.



Moving in the Classroom



Factor 4: Unclear Expectations




What Do We Want?





Factor 5: Where Is the Joy?



What soap is to the body, laughter is to the soul.


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Making Room for Fun!

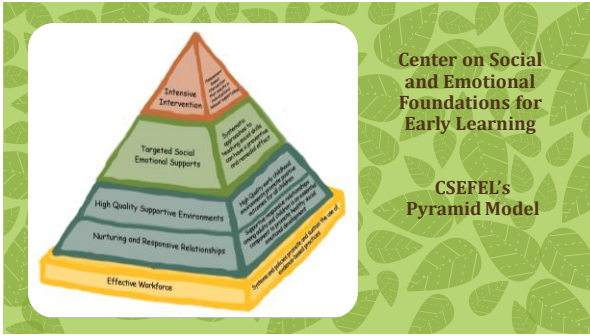


5 Changes to Make Today



Children cannot bounce off the walls if we take away the walls.

- Incorporate active learning (HOMES)
- Lessen sensory overstimulation
- Allow for movement
- Define expectations
- Be joyful and have fun!



**The MONSTER Approach:
Reacting to Challenging Behaviors**

- MOVE
- Notice
- Stop
- TEach
- Redirect

Anyone can slay a dragon, she told me,
but try waking up every morning
& loving the world all over again.
That's what takes a real hero.

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