

## UNDERSTANDING BEHAVIOR: SUPPORTIVE STRATEGIES

### INFANTS



- Respond to infants' own schedules.
- Read cues and allow for breaks from the interaction.
- Hold and provide comfort.
- Remove from an overstimulating environment.
- Change an infant's position.
- Talk, sing, and read.
- Provide favorite objects and toys.

### TODDLERS



- Express empathy to let the child know that you understand how the child feels.
- Talk about and validate the child's feelings.
- Offer alternative behaviors or actions that are more acceptable.
- Provide interesting objects and helpful visuals.
- Offer choices to give the child a sense of autonomy or control.

## TIPS FOR EDUCATORS

### ENGAGING INTERACTIONS: INFANTS AND TODDLERS