

What Do I Say Now?

Sometimes we all struggle with knowing how to respond to others. Think about the following scenarios and how they might influence cognitive development for children or youth. How would you start a conversation with the staff member?

<i>If you saw...</i>	<i>You would say...</i>
<p>Trent is a new caregiver in the infant classroom. He has very little experience with infants, but he is warm and energetic. He seems to gravitate towards the mobile infants. You have noticed that he waits until one of the other caregivers responds to younger infants when they cry.</p>	
<p>Meredith and Alacia work together in the preschool classroom. They have become good friends. You have noticed them becoming chattier with each other. In fact, they spend most of free choice time sitting together in different areas of the room and talking about non-work-related topics. They are spending less and less time talking to the children.</p>	

Corinne has been a school-age staff member for three years, and she does excellent work with the program. She came to you last week crying because she is so upset about a new staff member. She thinks the new staff member is too harsh with the kids and stifles their creativity. She is thinking about finding a new job.