



Connecticut Early Learning  
and Development Standards

Transcript for the [video](#):

## ***When the Unexpected Happens: Seizing the Teachable Moment***

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**Yotisse Williams, Preschool Teacher, Early Childhood Laboratory School at Housatonic Community College:** I think taking the teachable moment is the most important thing, and I think a lot of teachers miss those opportunities, you know. This is not a tragedy; this is an opportunity.

**Yotisse:** I love the way my friends are helping me put them in. Here, count them. One, two, three...

**Yotisse Williams:** And see, I'm modeling, because, now, I could've gotten upset, but now the kids see me modeling that self-control, "Oh, instead of getting upset about it, what else could we do?"

**Yotisse:** Wow, you did eight! Where are you going to play today?

**Yotisse Williams:** Things are going to happen. But it's how you react to it, and what you do about it. And whenever I'm in doubt, you know, I go to the kids and I'll say, "What do you think we can do?"

**Yotisse:** Do we have enough to go around?

**Class:** No!

**Yotisse:** How about Jordan? What's your idea?

**Child:** We can share!

**Yotisse:** Oh my goodness, what a good strategy, to share.

**Yotisse Williams:** Some of the answers that come up, you know? And that's when you really know that you've gone beyond teaching them for the moment; you're teaching them for the lifetime.