

# Understanding Challenging Behavior in Young Children

Example of how the video might be used in a college course

If addressing this concept during one class session:

## At home:

Have students review the *Additional Resources* listed on the website and pick one for deeper exploration.

## In class:

1. View the section of the video where the toddler throws the hard plastic ball. Stop the video before the teacher responds.
2. Have students work in small groups to generate a list of what might have influenced the child's behavior and discuss how the teacher might respond given the possible influences.
3. Provide each group with large (chart) paper and markers. Have them list their ideas.
4. Reconvene and ask each group to share their ideas with the whole group.

## View the video together in class. Then:

5. Lead a group discussion about the key points and examples shared in the video.
6. As a class, create a list of potential factors influencing children's behavior.
7. Facilitate a discussion comparing this list of factors with the lists created by small groups about the toddler throwing the ball.
8. Facilitate a discussion regarding the strategies the teacher used to respond to the toddler's behavior.
9. Ask each of the students to reflect and write about how their perspectives about children's behavior have changed based on the video and discussion.

## Assignment:

Ask students write a 1-2 page reflection/synthesis regarding their understanding of factors that may influence behavior, including how these may be manifested. Students should use the website they selected previously (from the *Additional Resources* links) as a resource.

### NAEYC Professional Preparation Standards:

1 Promoting Child Development and Learning  
*a, b*

2 Building Family and Community Relationships  
*a*

4 Using Developmentally Effective Approaches  
*a, d*

