



Connecticut Office of Early Childhood

Ideas for using the video [Understanding Challenging Behavior in Young Children](#)

About the video:

- This video features providers from a variety of center- and home-based settings in Connecticut, along with infants, toddlers, and preschoolers.
- The video includes an introduction and seven segments highlighting factors that may influence children's behavior*:
 - Physical, medical, and sensory needs (2:58)
 - Developmental stage (4:09)
 - Individual differences and temperament (5:49)
 - Family culture (6:53)
 - Classroom and home environment (8:50)
 - Learning new behaviors (10:58)
 - Significant emotional needs (12:54)

Major points of the video:

- Behavior often reflects a child trying to communicate his or her needs.
- Children's behavior is potentially influenced by many factors.
- The factors discussed in this video provide a general backdrop of some possible situations. Individual differences in children and families warrant careful consideration of every child's circumstances.
- Every child has emotional needs. It is important to be attuned to best meet those needs.

Considerations when using this video to support professional development in different settings:

- Participants who work in the same program are likely to have a shared frame of reference. They may know the same children and families, and may be familiar with the team members within the program (e.g., psychologist or social worker).
- College students may have background knowledge regarding certain issues, but may or may not have professional, clinical experience.
- Participants engaged in training that is not specific to their programs may benefit from an opportunity to interact with others from different programs.

Talking points:

- When considering children's needs, it is critical to be both knowledgeable and reflective in one's approach.
- When children demonstrate challenging behavior, it is helpful to consider what may be influencing that behavior and how each child's emotional needs might be met.
- Knowledge of available resources and how to access and utilize them effectively are integral aspects of support.
- Working together with team members and families is essential, while respecting confidentiality.
- Appreciating the continuum of individual differences among children increases our effectiveness in addressing each child's needs.

*Technical tips for using this video:

- The video may be accessed on [YouTube](#), which provides time stamps (hyperlinks that allow the viewer to select a particular segment of the video to start watching from). These time stamps can be particularly useful to trainers/instructors who wish to show only certain segments to a group. In YouTube, click on "Show more" underneath the video's description. Click on the time stamp that corresponds to the segment you wish to watch.
- For best viewing (especially if watching on a large screen), place your cursor over the video and click the "Settings" icon (it looks like a gear) on the bottom of the video. Under "Quality," select "720p".