NurtureVention

Intervention:

• To facilitate and/or interrupt the parent-child interaction during the visit in order to support whenever behavior occurs that threatens the health, safety or welfare of the child and/or the staff supervising the visit.

I. Understanding the Need for Intervention

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A. Assessing Safety: Intervention is mandatory when the health, safety, or welfare of the child or staff is at risk. 2

B. Monitoring Interaction: Keep observations noninvasive but attentive to potential triggers or escalation points.





Safety

PHYSICAL

EMOTIONAL

Examples of how to build relations hips

- Intake
- Orientation
- Screening, risk assessment
- Safety planning
- Physical environment
- Clear boundaries, limits and expectations
- Policies and procedures
- Staff readiness and training
- Parent and children relationships with staff
- Ongoing check-ins

The Approach to Nurturevention

- Timing and Tact: Choose the moment carefully, intervening at a time that will cause the least disruption while addressing the issue.
- Non-verbal Cues: Use body language and positioning to communicate presence and readiness to support without causing alarm or shame.
- **Verbal Intervention:** When speaking, use a calm and neutral tone to facilitate or guide interactions.

Questions to Guide Intervention

- A. Necessity: Is intervention necessary at this moment, or can the situation be resolved by the parent and child naturally?
- **B. Child's Experience:** How does the child perceive the intervention? Will they feel supported or further stressed?
- **C. Parent's Experience:** How will the parent interpret the intervention? Does it empower them or undermine their confidence?
- **D. Effectiveness:** Will the intervention enhance the nurturing interaction, or might it interrupt the flow of connection?

Principles of "NurtureVention"

- A. Enhancing Parenting Skills: Focus on interventions that support and build upon the nurturing skills curriculum.
- B. Reinforcing Positive Behavior: Use the opportunity to reinforce and model positive behavior, providing immediate and relatable examples.
- C. Educating Without Shame: Educate both parent and child without inducing shame, using language and actions that respect and uphold their dignity.
- **D. Building Connection:** Intervene in ways that promote connection, like suggesting a cooperative activity or guiding a conversation back to a positive topic.

Methods

- A. Modeling Behavior: Show rather than tell; model the behavior you want to encourage in the parent.
- B. Offering Alternative Strategies: If a parent struggles, suggest alternative strategies in line with the curriculum's teachings.
- C. Reflective Listening: Use reflective listening to validate feelings and experiences before guiding the parent and child toward more positive interactions.

Post Visit

- A. With the Parent: After the visit, discuss the intervention with the parent, focusing on the learning opportunities it presented.
- **B. With Staff and Self:** Reflect on the intervention's effectiveness with other staff and consider any adjustments for future visits.

Scenario

Scenario: Understanding Emotional Validation – A "NurtureVention" Moment

Participants:

Mia: A 6-year-old girl Carlos: Mia's father

Situation: During the visit, Mia and Carlos play a board game. Mia becomes upset and starts to cry when she loses the game. Carlos, wanting to soothe Mia but unsure how, minimizes her feelings by saying, "Don't cry, it's just a game."

Practice Tips

- **Recognize Teachable Moments:** Be vigilant for interactions that present opportunities to introduce or reinforce nurturing parenting concepts.
- Approach with Sensitivity: When intervening, approach both parent and child with empathy, ensuring they feel supported rather than criticized.
- Model the Desired Behavior: Demonstrate the nurturing behavior or concept directly to both the parent and child, providing a clear example for the parent to emulate.
- **Encourage Parent Participation:** Invite the parent to try the suggested approach themselves, offering guidance and encouragement as they do.
- **Explain the Rationale:** Help parents understand why the nurturing behavior is effective and how it benefits their child's emotional development.
- **Provide Positive Feedback:** Reinforce the parent's efforts to apply nurturing concepts, highlighting any progress or positive outcomes observed during the visit.
- Reflect and Discuss: After the moment has passed, discuss with the parent what happened, why it was handled in that way, and how similar situations could be approached in the future.
- This "NurtureVention" scenario emphasizes the power of emotional validation as a core nurturing parenting skill and demonstrates how supervised visitation providers can play a crucial role in facilitating these learning moments.

Scenario

Participants:

Ethan: A 5-year-old boy

Diana: Ethan's.

Situation: During their supervised visit, Diana presents Ethan with a complex puzzle. When Ethan struggles and fails to fit the pieces together, he starts to whine and push the puzzle away. Diana, misunderstanding Ethan's developmental capabilities, responds with visible frustration and a critical remark.

Practice Tips

- Spot Opportunities for Education: Stay alert to interactions where a parent's expectations may not align with their child's developmental stage.
- Approach with Understanding: Address the parent in a supportive manner that acknowledges their good intentions while offering new insights.
- Share Knowledge on Development: Provide clear, concise information on child development stages and how activities can be matched to a child's abilities.
- Model and Encourage Adaptation: Demonstrate how to adjust activities to suit the child's developmental level, emphasizing the importance of flexible parenting strategies.
- Promote Positive Reinforcement: Show the value of encouraging language and actions to bolster the child's selfesteem and enjoyment in learning.
- Facilitate Reflective Conversations: Encourage parents to reflect on the child's responses to different challenges and discuss how this understanding can inform future interactions.
- This scenario underlines the critical role of "NurtureVention" in guiding parents to a deeper understanding of their child's developmental needs, fostering nurturing interactions that are both supportive and developmentally appropriate.

Review