

How can caregivers support responsive interactions in the classroom?

- Take time to follow the child's lead
- Focus on caregiving routines as opportunities to provide responsive interactions
- Understand and respect the child's temperament. Get to know each child.
- Develop an understanding of child development. The same age doesn't mean the same skill.
- Get to know the families of children and ask families about how to best interact with their child. If the child has special needs, learn from any specialist involved with the family (with the family's permission).
- Have primary caregivers for each child
- Be aware of yourself and your own "hot spots."
- Set up environments that are developmentally appropriate and easily supervised
- Set up environments that are well organized, so that you don't have to hunt for equipment and supplies and other adults can easily step in and support you.
- Communicate with administrators
- Take breaks to preserve your own mental health

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