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Self-Assessment: Managing Challenging Behavior in Young Children

Multiple Choice Directions: Choose the best answer for each question. The answers to all questions are in the material that you have been instructed to read and review to complete this module.

1. Knowledge of normal child development is necessary when caring for children. The following are reasonable behavioral expectations based on age:
 - a) 18 month old toddler has tantrums
 - b) 2 year old chooses to play by himself or aside a peer
 - c) 4 year old bites in response to frustration
 - d) 5 year old prefers a playdate with friends over playtime with mom
 - e) All except c
2. In response to one child biting another, appropriate responses include:
 - a) Teach children not to be a victim.
 - b) Do not allow hurtful, aggressive behavior to go unchecked.
 - c) Gently bite the child who is biting to show the child that it hurts.
 - d) a and b
 - e) All of the above
3. Which of the following are examples of **environmental** factors which may contribute to challenging behaviors:
 - a) Conditions surrounding poverty
 - b) Violent media
 - c) Genes
 - d) a and b
 - e) All of the above

4. Nearly all children between the ages of 1 and 3 will show some hurtful, aggressive behaviors.
 - a) True
 - b) False

5. Which of the following factors influence why children may show difficult behaviors?
 - a) Family stress
 - b) A child's temperament
 - c) Unmet needs of the child
 - d) The child care environment
 - e) All of the above

6. Challenging behaviors serve some function for the child. To help the child, the professionals involved must:
 - a) Assess factors that may lead to challenging behaviors.
 - b) Let the child's family work it out.
 - c) Design actions that are based on an understanding of the child's environment and interactions at home and in child care.
 - d) a and c
 - e) All of the above

7. One strategy to manage difficult behaviors in young children involves rewarding desirable behaviors. This can be done by:
 - a) Giving the child a task they enjoy (i.e. being line leader or circle time helper)
 - b) Praising the child for their positive behavior
 - c) Ignoring the child's difficult behavior for the rest of the day
 - d) a and b
 - e) All of the above

8. Children respond to their environments. Caregivers can help children with difficult behaviors by doing all of the following **EXCEPT**:
 - a) Modeling sharing and other positive interpersonal behaviors
 - b) Yelling at and correcting children who behave inappropriately
 - c) Maintaining open communication with parents
 - d) Providing a warm and structured environment

10. Open communication between the childcare provider and the child's family is important for the following reasons:
 - a) It reveals risk factors for challenging behavior.
 - b) It shows the family that you care about the child.
 - c) It provides opportunities to share concerns and ask the family if they have noticed similar things at home.
 - d) It helps maintain consistency at childcare and home.
 - e) All of the above:

11. Why is suspending or expelling a child **not** recommended?
- a) Children who are expelled are more likely to drop out of high school.
 - b) Development is severely affected by removal of a child from the learning environment.
 - c) The behavior often gets worse, instead of better.
 - d) A child who is expelled may not have anywhere else to go during the day, which may affect the parent or guardian's ability to keep their job.
 - e) All of the above

Implementation Task Questions: these questions correspond to the implementation tasks found in the module.

Please refer to the child in your care whom you identified as having challenging behaviors for the following three implementation questions.

Implementation Task #1: List up to three environmental or biological risk factors which you identified for his or her challenging behaviors.

Implementation Task #2: Refer to the developmental milestone checklist you completed for this child. Did you identify any areas of concern? If so, list them.

Implementation Task #3: Apply the "Responsive Process" to address the child's behavior. Please describe three actions you took as part of the "Responsive Process."

Review your program's policies on discipline and expulsion and compare them to the recommendations in Caring for Our Children, 3rd edition. Please answer the following questions regarding your program's policies:

Implementation Task #4: Does your program have a discipline policy? Yes or No
If yes, list two ways in which it compares with the best practice recommendations in CFOC3 Standard 2.2.0.6: Discipline Measures.

Implementation Task #5: Does your program have an expulsion policy? Yes or No

If yes, list two ways in which it follows the best practice recommendations in CFO3 Standard 2.2.0.8: Preventing Expulsions, Suspensions, and Other Limitations in Services.

What steps can you take to prevent expulsion of at-risk children?

Questions about your knowledge of tools and resources

1. List 2 possible tools or checklists you can use as a child care provider, to review for a child's developmental milestones.

2. List two resources you used from this module in your program.
