CONNECT TO THE CLASSROOM

Provide Verbal & Physical Cues for Self-Control

During the toddler 2 video, the teacher provides hands-on opportunities for the children to explore the earthworms without harming them. The teacher provides verbal cues such as, "Put your hands in your lap" and "We have to look with our eyes." She also provides physical cues like gently moving the child's hand off the jar and patting her hands on her lap. She also provides magnifying glasses so that the children have a tool to occupy their hands while they explore.

Practice applying these strategies as you work with young children:

- Use verbal cues, such as simple instructions, songs, and rhymes, to remind children what to do.
- Use physical cues such as hand-over-hand, demonstrations, facial expressions, and eye contact.
- Other cues may include using gestures, ringing a bell, or dimming the lights.

When you are finished, reflect on the following questions:

1 What verbal and/or physical cues did you use with children?

2 How did the cues work? What was challenging for you? What was challenging for the children?

3 How did you respond to the children's attempts to follow your cues? Were there any challenges?

4 What could you have done differently to help the children understand what they were supposed to do in the activity?

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