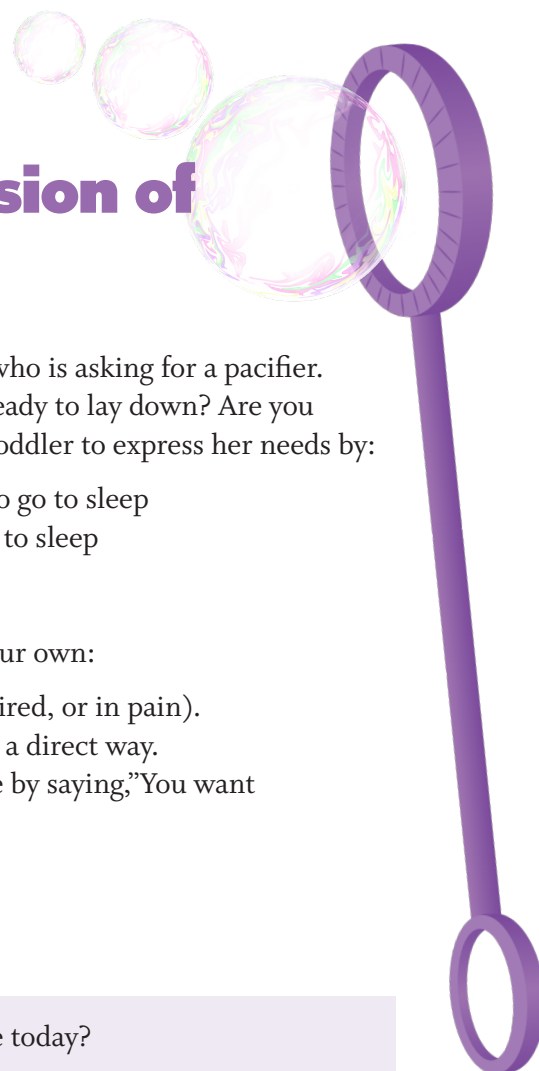


CONNECT TO THE CLASSROOM

Model and Encourage Expression of Internal States



During the toddler 2 video, the teacher notices and responds to a toddler who is asking for a pacifier. The teacher then adds, “You need your pacie. Are you telling me you are ready to lay down? Are you tired?” The child then lies down on the mat. The teacher encourages the toddler to express her needs by:

- responding to the toddler by saying a “pacie” is a signal of needing to go to sleep
- providing the pacifier and blanket while telling the child she can go to sleep
- remaining patient and attentive

Practice applying the key strategies demonstrated in this interaction on your own:

- Notice and respond to children’s signals of internal states (hungry, tired, or in pain).
- Encourage children to make connections and express their needs in a direct way.
- Model the language children can use by thinking aloud, for example by saying, “You want your pacifier because you’re tired and you want to go to sleep.”

When you are finished, reflect on the following questions:

1 How did you model and encourage a child to express an internal state today?

2 How did the child respond? What specifically did they do?

3 What was challenging? What were roadblocks to modeling and encouraging children to express their internal states?

4 What could you have done differently to model and express internal states?