

# Building Positive Teacher-Child Relationships

## HANDOUT

12



### ***Positive teacher-child relationships are important because:***

- ✓ They influence a child's emotional, cognitive, and social development
- ✓ They help children develop secure relationships with other adults
- ✓ They help children develop good peer relationships
- ✓ They help reduce the frequency of behavior problems (e.g., tantrums)
- ✓ They help children develop positive self-esteem
- ✓ They can result in higher rates of child engagement



### ***When interacting with young children, remember to:***

- ✓ Engage in one-to-one, face-to-face interactions
- ✓ Get on the child's level for face-to-face interactions
- ✓ Use a pleasant, calm voice and simple language while making eye contact
- ✓ Provide warm, responsive physical contact
- ✓ Follow the child's lead and interest during play
- ✓ Help children understand classroom expectations
- ✓ Redirect children when they engage in challenging behavior
- ✓ Listen to children and encourage them to listen to others
- ✓ Acknowledge children for their accomplishments and effort



### ***Positive teacher-child relationships include:***

- ✓ Consideration of the individual needs and interaction styles of young children
- ✓ Consideration of the children's and families' cultural, linguistic, and ethnic backgrounds