Reflecting with Parents Using the KIPS Assessment and PAT Curriculum

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Relationship Patterns:

**Watching** the child, the parent, and parent-child interactions guides the Parent Educator in understanding the strengths and risks/challenges that a family faces in taking care of their child.

**Wait/Listening** is an important step in the reflective process. When we listen carefully we show respect, provide a safe space to share, express feelings, and make connections.

**Wondering** brings together what we see and hear. When we wonder with a parent, we show curiosity to learn about each family. When a risk/concern emerges, we turn this into wonderment. We provide a safe space for thoughts that question what is unknown or are guesses:
- What is the child’s experience with the parent?
- What is the parent’s experience with the child?
- How able is the parent to understand the needs and development of the child?
- How able is the parent to reflect on his/her own behavior?

**Responding** occurs when the Parent Educator offers encouragement, empathic responses, information, and solicits ideas.

**Tracking** captures the progress toward positive parenting behaviors and the influence of the Parent Educator’s helping relationship with the family on parent-child interactions.

Take Home Messages

- Reflection is Key to Parenting and Parent Education
- Use WWWRT Relationship Patterns to Learn with Families and Deepen Our Work Together
- Parenting Assessment Is As Valuable As Child Screening to Enhance Our Work with Families on Parent-Child Interaction
- PAT Foundational Curriculum and KIPS Parenting Assessment Offer Resources for Learning

References


- Keys to Interactive Parenting Scale (KIPS), see [http://ComfortConsults.com](http://ComfortConsults.com) for information on tool and training.

- Parents as Teachers Foundational Curriculum, see [http://www.parentsasteachers.org/](http://www.parentsasteachers.org/)