

### Supporting Family Systems: *Building Relationships with Families*

#### USING INQUIRY TO LEARN ABOUT FAMILIES

##### Joseph and Ivan

Joseph is the father of Ivan, a new child in the preschool room. Joseph brings his son to school every day, and they are late at least two or three times a week. Both Joseph and Ivan look disheveled and in a hurry. They tend to arrive just as the group is cleaning up the morning snack and transitioning to circle time.

##### Using advocacy statements: Stating my opinion or viewpoint

*“Joseph, I’d like you to bring Ivan earlier so he can join us for morning snack.”*

How might this response influence the conversation with Joseph?

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##### Using inquiry statements: Asking for more information to help understand a family’s perspective

With a partner, come up with an inquiry statement that would help you see the situation from Joseph’s perspective. Write the inquiry statement here:

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How might this response influence the conversation with Joseph?

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##### Learning About Families in Your Program

Think of a family that you would like to understand better.

Take a moment to reflect on the existing mental models you have about this family.

How can you use inquiry to better understand this family’s perspective? Write your idea here.

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With a partner, identify one way you will use inquiry to explore your mental models about this family.

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