CONVERSATION STARTERS AND **AFFIRMATIONS**

Look, Recognize, Respond

Use these ideas to start talking to caregivers about interacting with their babies.

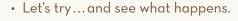
LOOK:

- · What a wonderful/handsome/cute baby!
- · What a cute outfit your baby is wearing.
- Your baby is adorable/is so alert/looks so healthy.
- Look at her...how sweet...
- That's really great that you have your baby close to you (affirm).

RECOGNIZE:

- · Aren't babies amazing! They can tell us what they want by the way they look and act.
- Every baby is different, but I think your baby might be telling you...
- · What do you think your baby is telling you?
- · What do you think your baby needs right now?
- · You really seem to know what your baby is telling you (affirm).

RESPOND:





- It looks like your baby is ready to play (or is hungry or needs something to be different).
- Look how he calms down when you hold him (affirm).
- I really like the way you responded to your baby (affirm).

Source: NCAST Learning Resource Manual, Barbard, 1978.







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