Promoting Positive Interactions

Instructions:

Read the scenario and answer the questions. All the babies in these scenarios are healthy, eating well, and growing appropriately.

Example: Dad is bottle-feeding 3-month old Roberto as he sits in your counseling office. As you watch, Roberto stops sucking, kicks his feet, starts to fuss and tries to turn his head away. The father jiggles the bottle until the baby starts sucking again. The dad asks, "How do I get Roberto to finish his bottle?"

What do you see?		
The baby is giving: Engagement cues (I want to be near you) Disengagement cues (I need something to be different)	 List the specific cues the baby is giving: Turning away Fussing Lots of movement Stops sucking (fullness cue) 	

What additional questions would you ask the parent?

Can you tell me a little more about how Roberto shows you he's done eating?

Let's look at Roberto...what do you think he is telling you?

What might you say to affirm the parent?

I can see how you would think he might need to finish the bottle, and I can tell that you really care about doing the best for your son.

What message might you share about engagement and disengagement cues?

When babies turn away from the bottle, slows, or stop sucking, that means they are done eating.

1. During her WIC appointment, Mom tells you that 4-year-old Daniel just loves to play with 3-week-old Amber. You watch as Daniel puts his face very near baby Amber's face and then she yawns, opens and closes her eyes, and tries to turn away. Daniel then begins to sing a loud song, you watch as Amber stiffens her hands and points her fingers. The mother smiles and says, "Daniel just loves playing with Amber, but sometimes she gets so fussy and I don't know why".

What do you see?		
The baby is giving: Engagement cues (I want to be near you) Disengagement cues (I need something to be different)	List the specific cues the baby is giving:	
What additional questions would you ask the parent?		
What might you say to affirm the parent?		
What message might you share about engagement and disengagement cues?		

2. Bradley looks proudly at his 2-month-old son, Jonathan during their WIC appointment. He talks about his son's interest in solid foods. He has been giving him 'tastes' of table food because he can tell by the way the baby looks at food that he wants to eat more than just breast milk.

Tip: Think about what cues Jonathan is giving to his Dad at home.

What do you see?		
The baby was giving: Engagement cues (I want to be near you) Disengagement cues (I need something to be different)	List the specific cues the baby was giving:	
What additional questions would you ask the parent?		
What might you say to affirm the parent?		
What message might you share about engagement and disengagement cues?		

3. Sara answers "no" to your question: "Does your baby seem satisfied after feeding?" When you ask her about this, Sara tells you she is thinking of weaning Carlos, who is a large 3 week old, because he is "never satisfied" after breastfeeding. She tells you that Carlos will start to fuss and move around just a few minutes after each feeding. Sara is sure she does not have enough milk, even though Carlos is growing well.

What do you see?		
The baby is giving: Engagement cues (I want to be near you) Disengagement cues (I need something to be different)	List the specific cues the baby is giving:	
What additional questions would you ask the parent?		
What might you say to affirm the parent?		
What message might you share about engagement and disengagement cues?		

4. Susan comes to the desk to ask if she can get some help with breastfeeding. She tells you she is not sure when she is supposed to feed her 7-day-old baby. You notice the baby is moving around in the car seat, his eyes are open and is rooting.

What do you see?		
The baby is giving: Engagement cues (I want to be near you) Disengagement cues (I need something to be different)	List the specific cues the baby is giving:	
What additional questions would you ask the parent?		
What might you say to affirm the parent?		
What message might you share about engagement and disengagement cues?		

Washington State WIC Nutrition Program does not discriminate.

For persons with disabilities, this document is available on request in other formats.

To submit a request, please call 1-800-841-1410 (TDD/TTY 711).



DOH 961-1033 October 2013



Publication developed by the California WIC Program in collaboration with the UC Davis Human Lactation Center. Reprinted with permissions