**Conflict Resolution With Young Children**

**Adapted from The Giving Tree School by Betsy Evans**

**Strategies for Responding to Problems and Conflicts in the Early Childhood Classroom**

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**Approach Calmly**

* **Place yourself at the child’s level**
* **Use a calm voice and a gentle touch**

 **Acknowledge Children’s Feelings**

* **Name and describe the children’s feelings (Very important in learning to identify feelings and what words to use)**

**“You seem angry because you are yelling and hitting.”**

* **Avoid asking questions until children are calmer**

 **Gather Information**

* **For children with language delays, observe children’s actions and describe the problem**
* **Ask “what” questions**

 **Restate the Problem**

* **Repeat again the problem you have observed or heard**

 **Ask for Children’s Ideas for Solutions and Choose One Together**

* **If the children have a language delay, describe the choices or solution that you see happening**
* **If children are old enough and developed enough, ask them for ideas and agreements**

 **Give Follow-Up Support**

* **Stay nearby to support the solution**
* **Tell the children, “You solved the problem!”**