

Connection Before Correction

Active Supervision, Emotional Connections & Behavior Management

Participant Handout

Role Model Professional Development

Learning Objectives

- Explain why emotional connection is the foundation of effective behavior management.
- Identify the five components of active supervision.
- Implement classroom routines that reduce challenging behaviors.
- Use positive guidance strategies that teach appropriate behaviors.

Behavior is Communication

Children's behavior often communicates a need before they have the words to express it.

Ask: 'What is this child trying to communicate?'

- Hunger
- Fatigue
- Frustration
- Fear
- Need for attention
- Need for movement
- Need for connection

Connection Before Correction

- Children learn best when they feel safe, seen, heard, valued, and connected.
- Connection builds cooperation.
- Correction without connection often creates resistance.

Five Components of Active Supervision

Set Up the Environment

Arrange the classroom to eliminate blind spots and create clear pathways.

Position Yourself

Move throughout the classroom instead of supervising from one location.

Scan and Count

Know where every child is and anticipate needs.

Listen

Notice changes in tone, noise level, conflict, or silence.

Anticipate

Prevent problems before they occur by planning ahead.

Positive Behavior Management

- Teach the behavior you want to see.
- Use positive language.
- Maintain predictable routines.
- Provide frequent encouragement.
- Use music and movement for transitions.

Reflection

What emotional connection strategy will you implement tomorrow?

Which active supervision strategy will you strengthen?

One classroom routine I will improve:

Key Takeaways

- Behavior is communication.
- Relationships influence behavior.
- Active supervision prevents problems.
- Predictable routines reduce stress.
- Connection comes before correction.