

Behavior Sort

Read each of the following descriptions of behavior. Decide whether it is developmentally expected, concerning, or unsafe. Then write one idea for how you would respond. Discuss your answers with a coach, trainer, or administrator.

Behavior	Is it developmentally expected, concerning, or unsafe?	How might you respond?
An 8-year-old pulls the fire alarm at the after-school program	Unsafe	Ensure safety during evacuation. Work with fire safety officials on reporting procedures.
A pre-toddler bites another child on the face and breaks the skin	Unsafe	Attend to the victim and separate the children. Follow procedures for incident reporting.
A toddler screams any time her hands touch cold, wet, or messy materials. She pulls away and cries.	Concerning	Gradually introduce new materials. Use a First/Then board to encourage her to try a new activity before doing something she really likes. Provide sensory experiences that she enjoys.
A 4-year-old plays with his food at lunch and makes his friends laugh	Developmentally expected	Sit with the children and start a conversation.
A 12-year-old tells a peer he should not go to school tomorrow if he knows what's good for him	Unsafe	Follow procedures for reporting to authorities, school, and families.
A 7-year-old teases others on the playground	Concerning	Actively supervise. Consider developing

		scripted story about name calling and its effects.
A 3-year-old leaps out of his families' mini-van and runs across the child development center parking lot	Unsafe	Take action to ensure child safety. Work with management on immediate safety concerns and discussion with family.
A toddler refuses to participate in clean-up and continues dumping toys	Developmentally expected	Get near the child and model cleaning up. Make it fun by adding a song or making it a game (I'll pick up blue, you pick up red!)