

## **Checklist for Supporting Children with Challenging Behaviors**

- □ **Identify the behavior:** *biting, hitting, difficulty with transitions, not following directions, difficulty sharing, difficulty learning, etc.*
- Consider if the behavior is typical for this age group: use a developmental checklist and check if this behavior is expected for the child's age group.
- □ **Consider whether or not the child's core needs are being met**: does this child feel safe and secure? Is this child hungry or tired? Does this child have sensory needs that are not being met?
- □ **Consider if this child has to learn a new skill:** does this child need practice with sharing? Does this child need practice with using words to communicate needs and emotions? Does this child need practice with transitioning, etc.?
- □ Consider ways to meet this child's needs or teach the child the lacking skill: provide sensory tools, provide rest and food, model skills, practice skills, and celebrate growth.
- □ **Partner with Families:** make sure you are communicating with families and seeking their perspective and feedback on how you can support their child.