PITC ACTIVITIES

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THE PROGRAM FOR INFANT/TODDLER CAREGIVERS

Places I Like to Shop

Module: II
Topic: Environments
Type: Reflection and Brainstorm
Group Size: Individuals/Large Group
Time: 20 minutes

Purpose:

1. To use personal experience to identify characteristics which make environments pleasant and effective for infants and toddlers.
2. Participants will think about places they like to shop and why.
3. They will compare and contrast these ideas to what is needed in a high quality infant/toddler child care center.

What you will need:

Participant Materials	Trainer Materials	Equipment
	:: Easel paper with the heading - Places I like to shop. :: Easel paper with the heading - Places I do not like to shop. :: Markers	

Directions:

1. Ask participants to think about the places where they like to shop and the places where they don't like to shop.
2. Ask them to think about what it is they like and don't like about the different places.
3. Invite them to share the characteristics they like with the whole group. Write responses on easel paper. Leave a space between each answer. Use two pages, if necessary.

   Examples might include:
   - Have enough of each item on sale
   - Organized
   - Variety
   - Items are labeled
   - I can reach things for sale
   - Group together similar items
   - Has large range of sizes
   - Items for sale are not bunched together

4. Invite them to share the characteristics they like do not like with the whole group. Using a different colored marker, write responses on easel paper. Leave a space between each answer. Use two pages, if necessary.

   Examples might include:
   - Bad smell
   - Merchandise crowding the aisles
   - They never have what they say they will have
   - Cannot easily find price tags
   - Can't ever find a clerk when you need one
   - Too hot or too cold
   - Uneven flooring
   - Can't see because of poor lighting

(Directions continued on next page)

Directions (continued):

4. In a third color, record responses in the corresponding spaces on the easel pages.
   Possible examples:

   Places I Like to Shop:
   Have enough of each sale item
   Duplicates of toys

   Places I Do Not Like to Shop
   Bad smell – Food is old
   Bad smell – diaper pail not emptied

5. Discuss how these items relate to an infant/toddler center.

Variations:

Links to Head Start Program Performance Standards:
:: 1304.53 (a)(1), (2), (3), (4), (5), (7), (8), (10)
:: 1304.53 (b)(1)

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Source Material:
WestEd. (2000). The Program for Infant/Toddler Caregivers' *Trainer's manual, Module II: Group care* (2nd ed.). Sacramento, CA: California Department of Education.

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