

Intention in a Developmental Approach

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Summary: In a developmental approach, a good relationship will help you interpret a child's intentions and guide behaviour

- ✓ Some children are unable to successfully communicate their intentions to us
- ✓ Intentions can be misinterpreted when behaviour doesn't match
- ✓ When a child's intent is repeatedly misinterpreted, extreme behavioural outbursts can happen
- ✓ When in good relationship with the child, you will be able to read the child's intent based on the child's behaviour because you are attuned to the child and can read the child's behavioural cues
- ✓ You want to reflect to the child what you sense that (s)he is feeling, even if (s)he is expressing something different
- ✓ Appropriately guide a child to more appropriate behaviours if behaviour is not matching intentions

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