

The “R” in the DIR® model: Relationship-based

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Summary: The Relationship in DIR/Floortime refers to the genuine use of affect in our interactions, considering the child’s individual differences, and the child’s developmental level

- ✓ Relationship is the most important part of DIR/Floortime
- ✓ Children develop and learn through their emotional experiences within safe, loving, and nurturing relationships
- ✓ According to **Dr. Gordon Neufeld**, our brains are wired to not look to anyone with whom we do not have a relationship to guide us
- ✓ Relationships in DIR/Floortime are respectful to the child
- ✓ “Relationships enable progress in the child’s overall functional and emotional development” (from the **DIR® Fact Sheet**)

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