



Pyramid Model
0-3



Spotlight on Reading Cues

SUBJECT: *Helping Parents See What Their Baby is Saying*

Every baby has a language—through smiles, frowns, movements, and sounds. Helping parents notice and interpret these cues strengthens connection and builds confidence in their caregiving.

LOOK FOR:

- Moments when the baby shows **engagement**—eyes bright, cooing, leaning in, reaching out.
- Signs of **disengagement**—looking away, yawning, arching, or fussing.
- How the parent notices and responds—do they pause, soften their voice, or offer comfort?



PRACTICE TIP:

During your next visit, gently guide the parent to notice what their child might be communicating.

You might say: “I noticed he turned his head when you came close. What do you think he’s telling you right now?” Or, “She’s smiling and kicking her legs—what do you think that means to her?”

These reflective questions invite the parent to slow down, tune in, and build confidence in reading their child’s cues.



RESOURCE: Use the [engagement and disengagement handout](#) to discuss cues with families.