

Demonstration - Talking to Katie about Placement

CW: Katie, the policeman and I can't find your mom or anyone in your family to take care of you. So we are going to take you to another person's home who will take care of you.

Katie: I want my mama.

CW: I know you do. I wish we could find her. I feel really sad that I don't know where she is.

Katie: You won't find her. I told you she went off with Richie. He gives her drugs.

CW: Yeah, you did tell me that. So, for now, we will work on making sure you are safe and have someone to take care of you. We know a family who will take care of you. They know how to take care of children who have been home alone. They are looking forward to you staying with them for a while.

Katie: Where do they live?

CW: A couple of miles from here.

Katie: Are there other kids there?

CW: Yes. You'll meet them when you go there.

Katie: How long will I have to stay?

CW: I don't know. First, we have to find your mom. We'll also be looking for your Aunt Ali. Your neighbor, Mrs. Tubbs, says she thinks Aunt Ali is out of town.

Katie: She went somewhere with her friend.

CW: We'll try to find her, too. For now, let's find stuff that you would like to take with you. I've helped other kids like you to get ready to stay with someone else for a while. It helps to have your own things with you.

Katie: I want my dolls and my bed.

CW: Let's see your dolls. What are their names?

Katie: Angel and Gretchen.

CW: "Having Angel and Gretchen keep you company when your mom isn't here makes you feel better?" Let's set the things you want to take on your bed. Your bed will stay here—it's too big to take. Is something worrying you, Katie? I will try to answer all of your questions.

Katie: I'm scared.

CW: I know you are, Katie. This is hard. I'm going to help you. Pretty soon, you will be staying with somebody who will take care of you. It will still be hard, but you will be safe and taken care of while we try to find your mom and aunt. What else would you like to take?

Katie: My jump rope.

CW: Good idea. The people you stay with will want to know about you. You can show them Gretchen and Angel and your jump rope.

Katie: I don't have anything to put my stuff in.

CW: I've got a suitcase in my car you can use.

Demonstration - Talking to Katie about Placement (continued)

Observation Form

What interactional Skills did the caseworker use?

Did the caseworker consider Katie's developmental age and use appropriate language?

What else did the caseworker do to support Katie's adjustment to the placement?

Did the caseworker explain to Katie where she was going?

Did the caseworker explain to Katie when she was going to see her mother again?