

Discipline

Time away acknowledges that everyone needs a break now and then. When a child loses control, the main thing we endeavor to enforce is the ability to give the child the opportunity to calm him/herself and think of a more appropriate way to express their needs or wants. Therefore, a pleasant area is provided for the child to retreat to and allow them to calm their self without harming other or disrupting classroom activities. This designated area within the classroom allows them to have time to walk away from the situation that they are having problems coping with at that particular time. The child is instructed to go to this area with the reassurance that once they have calmed down and would like to rejoin the classroom activities they are welcome to come back. This allows the child to be responsible for the amount of time they exclude themselves from the classroom routine. It also allows the child to take as much time as they need to calm themselves. Teaching them to be responsible for their own actions and learn that they can find positive alternative reactions when situations are not what they would like for them to be is one of the many aspects we teach. Time away also allows them to view appropriate actions and helps them identify what is acceptable behavior and what is not.