

# The Pyramid Model, PBIS, & FLIP IT: An Alignment

**The Pyramid Model for Supporting Social Emotional Competence in Infants and Young Children** provides a tiered intervention framework of evidence-based interventions for promoting the social, emotional, and behavioral development of young children (Fox et al., 2003; Hemmeter, Ostrosky, & Fox, 2006). The model describes three tiers of intervention practice: universal promotion for all children; secondary preventions to address the intervention needs for children at risk of social emotional delays, and tertiary interventions needed for children with persistent challenges. The implementation of the Pyramid Model within early childhood programs is often referred to as Early Childhood Program-Wide Positive Behavior Support (PW-PBS) or Program-Wide Positive Behavior Intervention and Support (PW-PBIS).

**FLIP IT®** is a strategy designed to promote young children's self-regulation, strengthen healthy relationships, and teach problem-solving skills, while decreasing instances of challenging behavior. It offers a four-step process embodied in the FLIP mnemonic: F – Feelings, L – Limits, I – Inquiries, and P – Prompts. FLIP IT is nothing new, but transforms best practice into a strategy that is easy to remember, applicable in a variety of challenging situations, and portable.

FLIP IT can support staff as a universal tool to use within the first tier of the Pyramid Model:

- ✓ Evidence-informed
- ✓ Strength-based
- ✓ Individualized
- ✓ Provides clear and predictable expectations
- ✓ Decreases challenging behavior while teaching an appropriate replacement behavior
- ✓ Applied in naturalistic settings
- ✓ Generalizable across settings
- ✓ Observable and measurable
- ✓ Includes caregiver fade-out plan to increase child independence

