



## THE POWER OF OPEN-ENDED QUESTIONS

A way to explore the nature of children’s relationships is through open-ended questions. These are questions that cannot be answered with a simple yes or no. They invite deeper conversations that disclose details.

**“Tell me more about...”**

**“Can you help me understand...”**

**“What did you mean when...”**

**“I’ve noticed that...”**

1. Tell me more about: Tell me more about Sarah’s house. Tell me more about why you are feeling scared. Tell me more about what you are playing.
2. Can you help me understand what you meant when you said...
3. What did you mean when you said you felt scared? ...you said that you don’t like your babysitter?
4. I’ve noticed that you’ve been spending a lot of time in your room...don’t want to go with your uncle anymore ...seem frightened around our neighbor

Use these questions to explore relationships or situations where you aren’t present.