

## **Inconsolable Behavior Protocol**

Separation from parents often causes young children to have difficulty adjusting to a new environment. Staff members need to be particularly sensitive to this issue in a school setting. If a child is having difficulty because a parent has left, the teacher should first allow the child to express their anger, in a manner safe for the child and others in the classroom. At the same time, the teacher should offer comfort and try to engage the child in an activity.

If the child continues to be upset, and cannot be consoled within a reasonable time (approximately 30 minutes) or refuses to participate in the program, the parent should be called and asked for suggestions on how the staff might help the child. In some cases, especially with infants and toddlers, the parent may be asked to come to the center to calm the child. The goal is to help the child adjust, have a good time, and have a successful day.

If the child continues to be inconsolable after all measures have been taken by the staff, then the parent will be called and asked to pick the child up from the school.



# STARTING BLOCKS PRESCHOOL