Scenario Reflection

Ethical dilemmas occur in early childhood programs from time to time. The National Association for the Education of Young Children’s (NAEYC) Code of Ethical Conduct can be used to address these dilemmas. Read the scenario below and think about similar situations that have occurred in your preschool classroom. In the space below, reflect on how you can handle a similar situation in the future using NAEYC’s Code of Ethics as your guide.

SCENARIO: CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

Carly teaches three- and four-year-olds in her program. As a preschool teacher, she intentionally plans interesting, developmentally appropriate activities that focus on language and literacy skills. Jackson’s mom shares with Carly that she would like Carly to send home worksheets and flashcards so that Jackson can practice his letter-sound recognition skills. She is concerned that Jackson is not learning what he needs to know for kindergarten. Jackson’s cousin, who attends a different program, brings home worksheets and flashcards every night. Carly listens attentively to Jackson’s mom, but is uncomfortable with her request.

1. What concerns do you think Carly might have about sending home worksheets and flashcards with Jackson?

2. What can Carly do to address these concerns?

3. How would you react in a similar situation?