

Discussion Guide

for 1, 2, 3, Grow! Animated Caregiver Stories

*The following questions are meant to facilitate appreciative learning between the various audiences of the three **1, 2, 3, Grow! Animated Caregiver Stories** – parents, providers, students, community organizations – about families’ cultural experiences following the diagnoses of their children with developmental disabilities. We hope that these discussions will promote greater understanding and support for how families from diverse cultures can meet their children’s developmental needs.*

- 1.** The voice of the caregiver is very powerful. Please share your reaction to hearing their stories.
- 2.** Do you know someone who has been in a similar situation as the caregiver in the story? How has that experience been for them?
- 3.** Which caregiver story had the biggest impact on you? Why?
- 4.** Did anything in the stories surprise you? Do you think that this is fairly common in families?
- 5.** The caregivers in the stories talk about cultural barriers that have made them second guess their instincts regarding their child. How have you experienced or witnessed this?
- 6.** Cultural barriers, bias and fear often prevent families from seeking help for their child early. How could you support families to trust their instincts and seek appropriate guidance?
- 7.** How might a father’s role be viewed in some cultures? What might be the impact on the mother’s role?
- 8.** Families are immersed in their communities through work, school, places of worship. Do community organizations have a role in helping families who are struggling with concerns about their child feel less isolated? If so, how?
- 9.** What are some ways you might share these caregiver stories in your family, work or community?
- 10.** How might tracking development not be a priority in certain cultures for immigrant families? What causes this view? How can we support families new to this country in obtaining developmental opportunities that are available?

Rafferty, J., Willis, L., Bui, O., Crossman, M.K., Fernandez-Pastrana, I., Gabovitch, E. Discussion Guide for the 1, 2, 3, Grow! Animated Caregiver Stories. UMASS Medical School, Worcester, MA. January 2019.
Available: <https://shriver.umassmed.edu/community-resources/cultural-resources/1-2-3-grow>

