

Sample discussion questions for use in Unit Meetings, after watching the Reasonable and Prudent Parent Standard video

A child in foster care wants to be able to play soccer. Practice and games are from 5:00-7:00 p.m. but transportation is a problem for the foster family. Discuss some of the ways you could help to address the transportation barrier. If costs are another barrier, what solutions may exist?

A teen in foster care really wants to be in a school play this year, but has recently been late turning in homework assignments and grades have been falling. The foster parent is hesitant to allow the youth to be in the play because rehearsal will take lots of time, leaving even less time for homework. During your monthly home visit, the youth and the foster parent each separately express their concerns to you. As the caseworker, what do you think your role is in this situation and how might you approach this scenario?

As a caseworker, what kinds of information would you share with the court and CRB, to inform them about the opportunities a child or youth has had to participate in activities and to share how the Department is ensuring that the caregiver is applying the Reasonable and Prudent Parent standard to such decisions?

How would you approach talking with a child, who has recently been placed into substitute care, about the things they like to do and have been involved with in the past and activities they might now like to experience?

How might you set the stage for a successful partnership between the biological family, the Department, and the substitute caregiver, in light of decisions the caregiver is able to independently make regarding activities for the child in their care? How would you approach getting input from the biological parents about what's important to them, that would be helpful for the foster parent to understand when making decisions about the child or youth's participation in activities, by applying the Reasonable and Prudent Parent Standard?