

# Building Family Bonds: A Virtual Home Visit

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SIMULATION

An interactive role-play simulation that builds the skills of family support providers to coach parents of children ages 2–5 on why and how to read to their children.

**TOPICS**

Coaching skills,  
reading to children

**USERS**

Family support  
providers,  
social workers

**SETTINGS**

Family care,  
schools of  
social work

**DURATION**

**20**  
minutes

Developed with the support of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, this solution builds the capacity of family support providers to help create positive encouragement, family relationships, and parental consistency.

### BUILD REAL-LIFE SKILLS IN A VIRTUAL HOME VISIT

Assume the role of the family support provider and talk with a virtual single mother about why and how to read to her 2-year-old son. Try different approaches to see what works best.



Learn more at [conversationsforhealth.com](https://www.conversationsforhealth.com)

# Harnessing the power of conversation to improve the quality and outcomes of family support visits.

The family is the single most important influence on the growth and development of a young child. Research shows effective family support programs can lead to reduced healthcare costs, reduced need for remedial education, and increased family self-sufficiency.

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Learn to guide parents in observing and reflecting on the effectiveness of current parenting techniques
- Learn to coach parenting techniques as part of a home visit, including joint planning, modeling by the provider, observing by the parent, practice by the parent, reflection, and feedback

## FEATURES

- Freely available online, 24/7
- Emotionally-responsive virtual humans

## RESEARCH

A pilot study found significant increases in self-reported skills and self-efficacy of family support providers regarding their ability to use the prescribed coaching steps. Parents learned how to read to their child as well as overcome problems in getting their child to cooperate while reading.

## HOW TO ACCESS

Simulations are available for personal use and small-scale research and evaluation at [\*\*conversationsforhealth.com\*\*](http://conversationsforhealth.com).