



Module 1: Framework Activity

ACTIVITY PURPOSE:

The purpose of the Framework Activity is to demonstrate the benefit of using a framework to guide practice.

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

Presenter will need:

- A watch with a second hand or timer.
- 1 copy of the “Counting Activity Page.”

Each participant will need:

- 2 copies of the “Counting Activity” (These are found on pages 1 & 2 of the *Expanding the Family Circle Workbook*).
 - Pen or pencil.
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ACTIVITY DIRECTIONS:

- 1) **Set up the activity** by talking about the importance of a framework to guide practice.
- 2) **State:** The framework is a way to organize the information received from the **stories** you hear from families. Like **blueprints** used by architects to guide them when building houses, this framework can be used by caseworkers to guide them in building their practice with families. Although blueprints look different depending on the type and size of the house, each one contains information to guide the builder. In a similar fashion, this framework provides caseworkers information to guide their practice, even though each case is constructed differently depending on the family of focus. A framework is a way to take the skills you have already, plus some things you learn here, and apply them to daily interactions with families. The goal of the framework is to help you build more effective, efficient practices.”
- 3) **Instruct participants to take out the first “Counting Activity Page:”** “In your workbook on page 1, you have a page with numbers on it.”
- 4) **Hold up a sample of the page with numbers so they can see what it looks like.**
- 5) **Instruct:** “I will time you; starting when I say “begin” you will have 30 seconds to circle the numbers *sequentially* on this page starting with the number one and going as high as you can in the 30 seconds;
- 6) **State:** “**BEGIN;**” *Time them for 30 seconds and then state “STOP.”*”
- 7) **Process the activity:** What is the highest number you reached? Anyone get to 20? 30? 40? 50?

- 8) **State:** “Now I am going to give you a framework to guide you when doing this exercise,”
- 9) **Instruct:** “Take out page 2 of your workbook and fold it in quarters like this,”
Demonstrate how to fold the paper in quarters.
- 10) **Explain:** It doesn’t matter which way you fold it, with the numbers inside or out, because we are going to open it up again, and lay it flat.
- 11) **Give instructions on how to use the framework,** “Now you will have 30 seconds to circle the numbers sequentially, when using the framework you start in the first quarter in the upper left hand quarter for the first number, then move to the upper right hand quarter for the second number, then the lower right hand quarter for the third number and so on going clockwise.
- 12) **State:** “BEGIN.” *Again time them for 30 seconds* and state “STOP.”
- 13) **Ask:** “What is the highest number you reached using the framework?”
- 14) **Process the second part of the activity focusing on the framework and asking the following:**
- What did you learn about having a framework to guide you?
 - *Using a framework makes work easier, more efficient*

 - What makes being more efficient important?
 - *Recent changes translate into changing work demands.*

 - What are some recent or ongoing changes in child welfare you are adjusting to?
 - *Build 18, Connections*
 - *Expectations to include fathers and extended families*
 - *ASFA permanency laws, time frames*
 - *ICWA*
 - *Cultural competency*
- 15) **Answer any questions and conclude the activity.**

