1. What would your response be to a child who asks you to promise not to tell their parents about what they disclose?

   Because the worker cannot make that promise, the best response would be to ask the child about their worries or fears if their parents knew about the disclosure.

2. What age is a child considered no more suggestible than an adult?

   10 years of age

3. When do you introduce body parts diagrams into an interview?

   Generally once a disclosure is made, to clarify details of the disclosure.

4. What is the best way to increase the credibility of a child’s response during an interview?

   Establish the child’s understanding of truth vs. lie

5. When do you use a practice narrative and what is the purpose?

   To help the child relax, and to assess their developmental level.

6. When interviewing children who are victims of neglect, what does a worker need to remember regarding their verbal skills and development?

   Neglect is often a causal factor for language delay in children.

7. What is the meaning of “Language Differential”?

   A child has few (or no) words to describe an event...it may appear the child is not being “factual” but in reality the child’s language may be limited in describing exactly what happened.

8. What are some ways to help focus the attention of a pre-school aged child?

   Using the child's first name during the interview can help focus the child’s attention.

9. What is the definition of Directed Drawing, Free Drawing, and Interactive Drawing?

   a. Directed drawing - worker has the child draw something specific
b. Free drawing – worker allows the child to draw whatever they wish
c. Interactive drawing – worker participates in drawing with the child

10. What is the continuum of questions and what questions are MOST preferred?

Continuum: Tell me invitations, open-ended questions, focused questions, yes/no questions, multiple choice questions, leading questions, coercive questions

Most preferred are tell me invitations, open-ended and focused

11. What are some reasons disclosures by adolescents are delayed?

Many adolescents fear what will happen – reaction of the perpetrator and parent(s), consequences for the child and family, etc.

12. What is the most appropriate response to a child when they disclose sexual abuse to a permanency planning, foster care, adoptions, or family centered services worker?

Generally, listen to the child but refrain from asking questions – inform the child they will need to tell their story to another person.

13. What is the definition of “purposeful” disclosure?

Child is ready to disclose abuse (understands, on some level, it is abuse). The child is driven by the desire for safety. It is characterized by three phases:
   a. Self – get comfortable, work through feelings
   b. Confidant Selection/Reaction Phase – Selecting a person to tell, where & when
   c. Consequences - dealing with the aftermath, changes in the family, etc.

14. What are the main reasons workers use tools (markers, pencils, crayons) during an interview?

To help a child organize thoughts, clarify words and phrases. Often this can help to obtain a more detailed disclosure.

15. What is an “Accidental” disclosure?

The child does not understand it is wrong to tell, does not consider consequences, often gives incomplete or partial statements.

16. At what age do disclosures include fantasy or bizarre elements?

Preschool age, generally.
17. There are different phases to Purposeful Disclosure—what is the primary concern for a child during the “Self Phase”?

The primary concern is how they will tell someone.

18. Why is building rapport so critical during an interview?

Rapport building usually has great influence on disclosure.

19. Who should be prepared to handle a child’s disclosure?

All Child Welfare Specialists (regardless of specialty)

20. Many times children will disclose other types of abuse/neglect after they have been removed from their home. What is the primary reason for this?

The child feels safe

21. Why do children recant their disclosures?

The need to protect the family or desire to reverse the consequences.

22. Disclosure is a process, is recantation part of that process?

Generally, yes.

23. What are some ways to prevent a false recantation?

Provide adequate support to the non-offending parent.

24. When a child has to testify in court regarding their abuse/neglect, what should the worker do to help the child?

Depending on the nature of the disclosure (for example, criminal charges could be filed), the worker should begin preparing the child for the possibility court testimony soon after the disclosure.

25. What are some reasons for a child to recant their disclosure?

See #21 above – child may want to return home, not get a parent or caregiver in trouble, etc.

26. Support from a non-offending parent is the one of the most critical pieces to prevent recantation. What percentage of children recant if they lack that support?
27. When an adolescent makes allegations of sexual abuse against foster parents, what is the most appropriate action to take?

Immediately arrange for the child’s safety, usually by moving the child. If the child recants after being moved, the worker should assess the case for recantation risk factors, and continue with the investigation.

28. How do recantations affect the believability of victims of child sexual abuse in regard to public perception?

Recantations are often used to support the assertion that children do make up stories of sexual abuse.