



## The Big Picture – Study and Discussion Questions

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- 1• Why do you think having a clear definition of your role with students is important?
- 2• What are some aspects of your current role as a paraeducator you feel could be better defined?
- 3• Below is a list of ways paraeducators support students. What is one strategy you have used (or could use) to do each of these -
  - A. Helping students increase their independence.
  - B. Supporting students to access the general education environment.
  - C. Assisting students in building social connections with others.
  - D. Helping students improve academic, social or emotional skills.
- 4• Why do you think the way someone understands challenging behavior is important in terms of how they handle a situation?
- 5• Evaluate how well the following explanations of behavior are going to help you work with a student at school -
  - A. The student just wants to get his way.
  - B. The student's behavior is an attempt to avoid being embarrassed.
  - C. The student's parents did not do a good job raising her. They let her get away with everything.
  - D. The student is easily distracted by the busy classroom.
  - E. The student lacks age-appropriate communication skills to tell us when she is fed up.
  - F. The student plays too many violent video games at home.
- 6• Evaluate yourself on each of the following: Give yourself a rating of 1-5 on -
  - A. Being more proactive and less reactive.
  - B. Having a large "tool kit" of interventions for different situations.
  - C. Working collaboratively with students to solve problems.
  - D. Checking your own emotional reaction.
- 7• What are some ways other members of your team can build good working relationships with you?
- 8• Did *Parasharp: The Big Picture* change the way you think about your job as a paraeducator? How?
- 9• Why do you think a student's cultural or ethnic background is going to be important to keep in mind when learning the principles of in this series?