

## **Two-Year-Old Mateo: Fight Response**

Two-year-old Mateo and his family are experiencing homelessness. Over the last few months, Mateo has been moving from one relative's house to another. Because of the constant disruptions in his life and his mother's need to quickly pack their clothes and move at night to whatever house they can find to give them a place to sleep, Mateo no longer has any toys that he can play with when he leaves his child care center. He worries that just like he lost his home, he will lose other things that he cares about, including the toys he plays with when he is at the center. One morning, Mateo arrived at the center and started playing with Legos, spending a long time trying to build a tower. Another child in the toddler class, John, walked up to Mateo and started taking some of the Legos. Mateo immediately responded by hitting, kicking, and pulling John's hair until he got the Legos back.