

RealCareer™ Employability Skills Program

Child Care Careers

Responsibility

Scenario: One day, a child in your care breaks his arm. This was traumatic for all involved, but you made it through and the child is doing okay. The center director needs a detailed report on the accident. She asks you to take the last 20 minutes of your shift to complete the forms for the insurance company and the State Licensing Department. She will be asking your co-teacher, Gretchen, to fill them out also.

It's been a tiring day and you want to leave early. Gretchen is also filling out the forms and she's a better writer, so you scribble down some general information and put it in the center director's box. You get to leave 15 minutes early!

Later that night, you receive a text from the center director, asking for specific details of the accident. She needs more information because your forms weren't thorough. You text Gretchen and ask her about the report. She tells you that the center director asked her to fill out the actual report documents. She is working on them right now and they are due first thing in the morning. You feel badly because you didn't complete your responsibility and others are needing to pick up your slack.

Points of view to consider

- You, the employee
- Your coworker, Gretchen
- Your center director

Key questions (Review the definition of responsibility)

Definition of Responsibility: A duty or task that you are required or expected to do; something that you should do because it is morally right, legally required, etc.

- What are you responsible for in this scenario and why?
- What should you have done differently?
- How has this impacted each person involved in this scenario?
- How can you restore trust after you have been irresponsible?