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Handout 14: Developmental Variations in Crisis Reactions Activity

Identify which of the reactions are *typically* associated with one of four developmental levels. Write "PS" for typical preschooler reactions, "PG" for typical primary-grade reactions, "IG" for typical intermediate-grade reactions, and "A" for typical adolescent reactions. If you need assistance with this task refer to Handout 13.



 1.	Not as clearly connected to the crisis as observed among older youth (e.g., reexperiencing the trauma might be expressed as generalized nightmares).
 2.	Reexperience the crisis event through trauma-related play (that does not relieve accompanying anxiety), which may be compulsive and repetitive.
 3.	Event-specific fears.
 4.	School avoidance.
 5.	Diminished emotional regulation (e.g., irrational fears).
 6.	Self-injurious behaviors.
 7.	Suicidal ideation.
 8.	Expressed behaviorally (e.g., behavioral regression, clinging and anxious attachment behaviors, refusal to go to school, irritability, or anxiety).
 9.	Revenge fantasies.
 10.	Increased behavior problems (e.g., outbursts of anger and fighting with peers).
 11.	Feelings associated with traumatic stress reactions often expressed as concrete physical symptoms (e.g., stomachaches and headaches).
 12.	Expressed behaviorally (e.g., through play, but such play is more complex and elaborate, when compared with that of younger students) and often includes writing, drawing, and pretending.
 13.	Difficulty concentrating or moodier, leading to learning problems.
 14.	Temporary loss of recently achieved developmental milestones (e.g., loss of bowel or bladder control, bed-wetting, thumb sucking, fear of the dark, or fear of parental separation).
 15.	Repetitive verbal descriptions of the event (without appropriate affect).
 16.	Problems paying attention and poor schoolwork.
 17.	Sense of a foreshortened future.
 18.	Expressed nonverbally (e.g., clinginess, tantrums, crying and screaming more readily and often, trembling, and having frightened facial expressions).
 19.	Oppositional/aggressive behaviors used to regain a sense of control.
20	Substance abuse

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