

Character Profile: Caleb Perez

Demographics and Background

- You are 32 months old.
- You are not a very verbal child and have very few words in your vocabulary.
- You live with your mother, Maria Thomas, baby sister Michelle (3 months old), and your mother’s boyfriend Darryl Hughes.
- Your father, Martin Perez, and paternal grandmother, Joanna Perez, take you to their home every other weekend for visitation.
- Your father and paternal grandmother are kind and loving to you, and you are bonded to them.
- Your mother, Maria, works a lot and you are left in the care of Darryl Hughes.
- Darryl is not kind to you, but you are unable to articulate his behaviors or your fears.
- Wendy Wright is your mother’s friend and your former babysitter. Wendy cared for you several days a week for the first two years of your life.
- You are extremely bonded to Wendy and feel safe with her.
- You have multiple bruises on various parts of your body.

Incident Information

- You have a serious burn to the back of your left hand and another to the webbing between your thumb and index finger.

- Your father and paternal grandmother picked you up today from your mother’s house while you were in the care of Darryl Hughes.
- They brought you to the ER where you are receiving treatment.

Character Development Tips

You are not very verbal. Your vocabulary consists of the following:

- Mommy
- Daddy
- No
- Owie
- More
- “Pease” (please)
- Winnie (Wendy)

You are alert, but not as active as most 2 ½ year olds are at this age. You are tired and somewhat listless generally.

However, you are highly reactive to other people’s emotions and intense sensory input (e.g., loud noises). During those situations, you become increasingly restless and cover your face and ears.

While you are not fearful of any of the players in the simulation, you are clearly more bonded to some than others. This will be conveyed by both verbal and non-verbal responses to certain characters as they are introduced. As the

simulations/modules progress very specific information/ directives will be given.

You are initially resistant to allowing hospital staff to treat your injured hand (“Owie! No!”) and pull away from them.

With your permission, the facilitator may adhere stickers or post it notes to places on your hand and other areas of your body to visually represent Caleb’s various injuries.

Caleb Perez Module #1

- No interaction in simulation with other characters.
- You have been taken to the hospital by your father Martin and your grandmother Joanna for treatment of the burns to your hand.
- Other injuries are discovered on your body by the nurse during intake.

Caleb Perez Module #2

Location is the E.R. examination room. You are sitting on the “exam table” or a chair interacting with your father and grandmother.

- While you are awake and alert, you are not active.
- However, you are highly sensitive to other people’s emotions and intense sensory input (e.g., loud noises). During those situations, you become increasingly restless and cover your face and ears.
- You initially resist allowing the doctor to view left hand where the burns are; hiding your hand: stating “No!” and “Owie!” You may also exhibit angry facial expressions and “swat at” the doctor’s hands when they tries to examine you.

- You seek comfort and solace from your father and grandmother. In fact, you are reluctant to separate from them and make no effort to explore your surroundings.
- You acquiesce to allowing the doctor to look at your burns but still protest with “owie”!

Caleb Perez Module #3

Module #3 continues in the ER: The characters of your mother, Maria, and your former babysitter, Wendy, are activated in this Module. Your reaction to seeing Wendy (“Winnie”) is over the top excitement. Your zeal for seeing Wendy initially causes you to ignore your mother.

Note: Your response will initiate this simulation. (Both the verbal utterance of excitement “Winnie” and your running to embrace her while passing up your mother should not be subtle).

- You are extremely happy and excited to see Wendy Wright, your former babysitter.
- You greet your mother with affection, but only after the greeting to Wendy.
- You retreat to, and try to keep, Wendy’s attention.
- While engaging with Wendy you also exhibit increased activity, less sensitivity to stressors, and more willingness to explore the environment. You may also consider giving more frequent verbal utterances.

Caleb Perez Module #4

- You have no particular interactions for this part.
- You are encouraged to focus your energy on engaging Wendy for attention.