

# 12

# CORE CONCEPTS FOR UNDERSTANDING CHILD TRAUMATIC STRESS

NCTSN

The National Child Traumatic Stress Network



To learn more about the 12 Core Concepts visit [bit.ly/nctsn12](https://bit.ly/nctsn12)

The 12 Core Concepts for Understanding Traumatic Stress Responses in Children and Families provide a foundation for understanding how trauma can affect children, families, and the systems that support them. Together, these concepts highlight key principles that can help professionals, caregivers, and communities recognize the impact of trauma and promote healing and resilience.



COMPLEXITY



LIFE EXPERIENCE



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WIDE-RANGING REACTIONS



DANGER & SAFETY



CAREGIVING SYSTEMS



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NEUROBIOLOGY



CULTURE



SOCIAL CONTRACT



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CORE CURRICULUM  
ON CHILDHOOD TRAUMA

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