Paraprofessionals Who Work With Children Who Have Challenging Behaviors (Lesson 7)

Please read the following scenario, consider the options, and then answer the questions below.

Scenario
Imagine you are a paraprofessional in a preschool classroom. Emma is a four-year-old in your class who does not like to transition from free play time to clean-up time. When the preschool teacher asks Emma to clean up her toys and materials, Emma usually yells and hits her. The teacher asks you to help her choose and implement an intervention to address Emma’s challenging behavior.

Options
Based on what you learned in this lesson, what type of intervention could you use to prevent Emma’s challenging behavior during clean-up time? Consider the following options, and then decide what you would do in this situation.

? Offer Emma a choice between different clean-up activities, such as putting away the blocks or picking up the books.

? Provide Emma with a picture schedule, and give her the “clean-up” picture as a prompt for clean-up time.

? Reinforce Emma’s appropriate behavior during clean-up time with item or activity that she enjoys, or extra adult attention.

? Use another strategy, or a combination of strategies to prevent Emma’s challenging behavior.
Questions
What would you do? Answer the following questions.

1. Describe Emma’s challenging behavior.

2. When does the challenging behavior occur?

3. What is the desirable appropriate behavior that Emma’s teacher would like to see?

4. Which strategy would you use to prevent Emma’s challenging behavior during clean-up time?

5. Why did you choose that particular strategy, and why do you think it would be the best strategy to use in this situation?