

Observing Teaching Sessions

Date: _____ Session Description: _____
 Area: Activity selection and planning

Teaching practice	Specific points to think about	Score	Comments
Clear goals	Activity provides several ways of understanding / practicing / using the skill or concept		
Activity is functional	Activity is relevant to the child's life now or in the future Increases independence/ self-worth Is enjoyable / motivating to the child		
Participation	Child brings the materials Child participates in all steps of the activity Child uses the products made Child puts things away		
Independence	Required adaptations for materials in place Adaptation of task to promote independence Partial to full participation encouraged Adequate wait time for initiation/ participation Guidance or instruction only when absolutely necessary		
Concept building	Activity promotes language Activity promotes literacy or numeracy Activity builds memory, problem solving		
Communication	Child had access to appropriate ways of communication throughout the activity Others used appropriate communication with the child		
Involvement	Child was involved or engaged in activity		

Scoring Key: 0 - Oh no! I missed it this time! 1: Yes, but not well enough; 2: Did okay, but have some ideas to make it better; 3: Got it right!

Area: Quality of interaction

Teaching practice	Specific points	Example	Score	Comments
Anticipation	Child knows whom the interaction is with	I used a symbol that the child understands I waited until the child noticed me I drew the child's attention to me		
	Child anticipates the start of the activity & knows when it is finished	I introduced the material/topic in a way the child understands I let the child know through sign/ gestures/ words/ cues that the activity is over		
Interaction	Child had multiple opportunities to communicate	I responded to the child's topic of interest I waited in order to encourage initiation I encouraged taking turns, making choices I created opportunities in the activity for the child to ask, protest, question or comment I provided chances for interaction with others		
Building language	Higher levels of communication are made available/ modelled	I restated child communication using a <i>higher</i> form of communication I restated child communication using <i>other</i> forms of communication I included literacy opportunities into the activity		
Critical thinking	Child had opportunities to problem solve, remember or make connections with previous experiences	I created situations to encourage problem solving and critical thinking I allowed the child time to explore I encouraged the child to try several options I helped the child connect to previous events/activities		
Independence	Child had choices & opportunities for decision making Child participated as independently as possible	I provided choices and opportunities for the child to control the process I selected activity, materials and pace that allowed the child to experience success and also challenged the child at times		

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