

CHLD 101: Introduction to Early Childhood Education

Child Development Lab - Photo Assessment

Learning Outcomes	9. Identify observation, screening, and assessment techniques and demonstrate competencies in observation techniques, synthesis and analysis by observing in diverse early childhood programs and analyzing information gathered with respect to the role and influence of culture, linguistic and ability diversity.
DEC Recommended Practices	A5. Professionals solicit information from families regarding the child's interests, abilities, and special needs. A8. Families participate actively in assessment procedures. A15. Professionals rely on materials that capture the child's authentic behaviors in routine circumstances.
NAEYC Standards	3b. Knowing about assessment partnerships with families and with professional colleagues. 3c. Knowing about and using observation, documentation, and other appropriate assessment tools and approaches.

You will be returning to the Child Development Lab and spending time studying the Daily Highlights that the teachers create to keep parents aware of the activities of the classroom. These materials are a perfect example of DEC Recommended Practice A15 listed above which state that professionals need to rely on materials that capture children's authentic behavior in routine circumstances. The purpose of this field experience is for you to become familiar with an authentic assessment technique that can be used to drive curriculum development decisions.

To prepare for this assignment:

- Review Chapter 9 on Assessment
- This will be an in-class activity so your instructor will schedule the appointment and assure that the teachers are expecting your visit.

To complete this assignment:

- Go to your assigned room and observe any Documentation Panels that they may have displayed or made available for you.
- Borrow the Daily Highlights binder that the teachers have on the cubbies outside their rooms. Some may have them near the sign-in sheets inside the classroom. Take them back to your classroom or to one of the Family Pods in the center.
 - Appoint a scribe to record the comments as the photo collection is analyzed.
 - Study the collection of photos carefully, looking for:
 - Children's interests and abilities
 - Children's levels of play (on-looker, solitary, parallel, associative, cooperative)
 - Reoccurring patterns of behavior
 - Repetition of activities/toys/materials
 - Preferences of playmates

- Have the scribe record the group's summary of:
 - What you have learned about the children in the room by studying their photos.
 - Ideas of how teachers can utilize this collection of photos.
 - How teachers might use this to guide their curriculum planning.
 - An explanation of why the CDL teachers refer to their Daily Highlights as a component of their authentic assessment.
- Have each member of the group sign the responses before they are submitted to the instructor.