

CHLD 109: Observation and Assessment of Young Children

Assessment Strategies

Learning Outcomes	2. Describe, select, and demonstrate use of purposeful, appropriate formal and informal observation tools, instruments, and strategies for use in program and child evaluation.
DEC Recommended Practices	A15 Professionals rely on materials that capture the child's authentic behaviors in routine circumstances. A20 Professionals assess the child's strengths and needs across all developmental and behavioral dimensions. A41 Professionals monitor child progress based on past performance as the reference rather than on group norms. A28 Professionals conduct longitudinal, repeated assessments in order to examine previous assumptions about the child, and to modify the ongoing program
NAEYC Standards	3.a: Understanding the goals, benefits, and uses of assessment 3.c: Knowing about and using observation, documentation, and other appropriate assessment tools and approaches

Observation and assessment are tools that provide you with information about the unique needs of each child. Your ability to determine children's needs directly relates to program effectiveness; as supporting the unique development and learning needs of each child is the cornerstone of effective practices.

Your assignment requires that you develop a table of curricular observation and assessment strategies, including an overview of what you see are major strengths and challenges associated with each strategy. Your strategies will be based on assessment of children's development and learning, program activities/teaching practices, and environment.

Part One: Review of Assessment Strategies

Part One of this assignment requires that you develop a list of assessment strategies. Based on Chapters 3-9 of your course text *Assessing and Guiding Young Children's Development and Learning*, complete the following:

- Develop a list of observation and assessment strategies. Complete Part One of the **Assessment Strategies Template** handout including the following items:
 - The targeted method
 - Use, (based on whether the strategy supports individual development), whole program planning, room environment assessment, or a combination
 - What you see as the strengths of the method

- What you see as the weaknesses of the method
- General notes that will help you use the strategy in the future

Part Two: Planning for Child-Based Assessment

Part Two of this assignment requires that you develop an observation plan for individual development within the curricular environment. For this aspect of the assignment you will be setting goals and developing your observation plan based on the development and learning needs of individual children. Based on Chapters 3-9 and Appendix A: Assessment and Analysis Guides of your course text *Assessing and Guiding Young Children's Development and Learning*, complete the following:

- Develop an assessment plan for children's individual development within the curricular environment. Complete Part Two of the **Assessment Strategies Template** handout and include:
 - The overall goal/purpose of assessment
 - Development and curricular domains (what) you will be assessing
 - When you will assess
 - The source, method, and context of your assessment window, as well as what you will use as your recording procedure

Part Three: Planning for Whole Program Assessment

Part Three of this assignment requires that you develop an observation plan for whole program assessment within the curricular environment. For this aspect of the assignment you will be setting goals and developing your observation plan based on whole program activities. Based on Chapters 3-9 of your course text *Assessing and Guiding Young Children's Development and Learning*, complete the following:

- Develop an assessment plan for program quality within the curricular environment. Complete Part Three of the **Assessment Strategies Template** handout and include:
 - The overall goal/purpose of assessment
 - Development and curricular domains (what) you will be assessing
 - When you will assess
 - The source, method, and context of your assessment window, as well as what you will use as your recording procedure

Part Four: Planning for Environment Assessment

Part Four of this assignment requires that you develop an observation plan for your class environment. Based on Chapters 3-9 of your course text *Assessing and Guiding Young Children's Development and Learning*, complete the following:

- Develop an assessment plan for environmental quality. Complete Part Four of the **Assessment Strategies Template** handout and include:
 - The overall goal/purpose of assessment
 - Component of the class environment you will be assessing (what)
 - When you will assess
 - The course, method, and context of your assessment window, as well as what you will use as your recording procedure.

For this assignment, you will turn in to your course faculty:

- Your completed **Assessment Strategies Template**