

COMPETENCY PROFILE



OBSERVATION, ASSESSMENT & RECORDKEEPING

WCC: ECE 141 (3 credits)

Knowledge & application of various techniques for observing & recording behavior of young children in early childhood settings.

OBSERVATION BASICS

- Describe the importance of observation for Educators/caregivers.
- Understand the value of observing children involved in spontaneous activity.
- State the forms used to record observed information.
- Know how to avoid judgments, assumptions and biases in observations.
- Understand the relationship between objectively recorded observations and valid interpretations.
- Know terminology used in discussing observations.

NARRATIVES

- Explain the types of narrative observations.
- Know the advantages and disadvantages of each type of narrative observation.
- Prepare narrative records from observations of children.
- Evaluate your narrative recordings.

SAMPLINGS

- Define and explain the features of time and event sampling.
- Explain the advantages and disadvantages of each sampling method.
- Write operational definitions.
- Conduct time and event samplings.
- Evaluate your time and event sampling observations.

CHECKLISTS

- Define and explain the features of a checklist.
- Explain the advantages and disadvantages of a checklist in observing children.
- Identify sources of information for checklist material.
- Conduct observations using checklists.
- Evaluate checklists.
- Write a learning prescription based on a checklist observation.

CHARTS, SCALES & PICTORIAL REPRESENTATIONS

- Identify the features of charts, scales and pictorial representations as observation tools.
- Explain the advantages and disadvantages of charts, scales and pictorial representations as observation tools.
- Conduct observations using charts and scales.
- Create graphs to depict observation data.
- Understand curriculum-planning implications as a result of observations.

MEDIA TECHNIQUES

- Define media techniques as related to observation of children.
- Understand the benefits of various media techniques in observations.
- Recognize confidentiality issues in the use of media techniques.

PORTFOLIOS & CHILD STUDIES, REPORTING TO PARENTS

- Define child studies and portfolios.
- Explain the features of child studies and portfolios.
- List the advantages and disadvantages of portfolios.
- Understand the key elements in successful parent-teacher relationships.
- Describe the process of sharing observation data with parents regarding their child's development.

SCREENING AND ASSESSMENT

- Describe the features of screening and assessment instruments.
- Understand the differences between observations and tests.
- Identify various assessment instruments.
- Discuss appropriate use of the Early Screening Inventory.

College Textbooks:

- [The Art of Awareness: How Observation Can Transform Your Teaching](#), Deb Curtis & Margie Carter, Redleaf Press, 2000
ISBN# 978-1-884834-84-4 (new# 2007)

This document is to certify that this student has completed the required coursework as defined by the Whatcom County Tech Prep Articulation Agreement and has demonstrated mastery for college credit. Further information about any aspect of this program may be obtained by contacting the school and instructor named on this profile.

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