

CHAPTER 6

Observation Skills

Study Guide

Directions Fill in the blanks as you read the section in the textbook or listen to lectures and view demonstrations.

Observing Children

Those who work with children never _____

Early childhood professionals observe and record children's behavior to:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Becoming a Skilled Observer

Better observations are the result of _____. It takes skill to learn to observe without interfering.

Observer Conduct

When you observe children, your goal is to _____

Observers should do their best not to _____

Chapter 6 Observation Skills (continued)

Follow these guidelines for observer conduct:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Ethics and Confidentiality

To ensure that the privacy of a child and family is protected, observation records

If the records will be shared with people other than the child's program staff,

If observations are used in research, consider using _____

Making Objective Observations

Objective observations: _____

Subjective description: _____

Objective observations require you to record _____

Recorded observations should include:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Chapter 6 Observation Skills (continued)

Interpreting Observations

When interpreting observations, early childhood professionals look for

Experienced professionals resist _____

Early care specialists also make interpretations based on _____

Observation Style and Methods

Early childhood professionals are more likely to observe children _____

Naturalistic Observation

Naturalistic observations: _____

Participant observer: _____

Drawbacks of naturalistic observing include:

- _____
- _____
- _____

The observer must make his or her presence felt _____

Observation Methods

Some commonly used methods of observation include:

- Checklist: _____

- Anecdotal record: _____

Chapter 6 Observation Skills (continued)

- Running record: _____

- Frequency count: _____

- Rating scale: _____

Assessing Children's Development

To determine a child's overall development, you should observe him or her

Observing Development

Observe and record the following for physical development:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Observe and record the following for intellectual development:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Chapter 6 Observation Skills (continued)

Observe and record the following for social development:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Observe and record the following for emotional development:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Maintaining Observation Records

Observation records should be _____

Care providers and their supervisors should review the records _____

Collecting Samples of Children's Work

Authentic assessment: _____