



Getting Ready Training

HANDOUT 4-1

A GUIDE FOR INTERACTIONS BETWEEN FAMILIES AND EDUCATORS

Child's Name: _____ Child's Age: _____ Date of Contact: _____

Parent's Name: _____ Educator's Name: _____

I. OPENING

A. Establish/Re-establish the Partnership

- Engage in mutual social talk with parent/family.

B. Discuss Child Family Strengths/Concerns and Observations since last visit

[Actively listen for possible priorities for the visit.]

- Ask about the child's strengths, what he/she enjoys, what is going well, new interests.
- Discuss family developments since the last home visit.
- Ask about any concerns and how they have been handled.

C. Co-establish the purpose for today's visit

- Explore educator and parent ideas for this visit, including ideas from previous visit.
- Co-determine parent-child-educator roles.
- Confirm the plan for "Let's Play"

During the initial Getting Ready home visit ask the parent the following question: What are your long-term dreams and desires for (child's name)? The parent's response can be used during future visits as a way of connecting the 'small steps' of learning with the 'long-term steps' they are hoping for.

II. MAIN AGENDA

A. Let's Play! Parent-Child Interaction

- Mutually confirm plan for play activity – where it will happen, what materials will be used, who will do what (parent-child-educator roles).
- Enjoy the interaction! (Be observant of parent use of A-C practices).
- Reflect on play activity with parent – How did it go? What did the parent enjoy? What did the parent do? (A-C practices) What did the educator observe? What could be done to extend the activity during similar play activities over the next week?

B. Reflect on the Home Visit Plan from the last visit – Child Goal

- Review child progress since the last visit, specific to the previously selected child goal.
- Discuss which activities/strategies selected to support the child's progress toward meeting the goal *were* and *were not* helpful.

GETTING READY STRATEGIES

- Communicate Openly and Clearly
- Encourage Parent-Child Interaction
- Affirm Parent Competencies
- Make Mutual/Joint Decisions
- Focus Parent's Attention on Child's Strengths
- Share Developmental Information and Resources
- Use Observations and Data from Parents and Educator
- Model and/or Suggest

Notes:

Observe the Parent-Child Interaction

[Watch for and comment on parent skills]

- Engage in Sensitive and Responsive Interactions
- Sustain Interest and Engagement Through Positive Affect
- Encourage Joint Attention and Turn-Taking
- Follow Child's Lead
- Promote Elaboration through Challenges and Support



C. Develop New Home Visit Plan – Child Goal and Learning Experiences/Activities

- Co-determine whether to continue with the previous child goal, revise the previous goal or select a new goal. Consider:
 - » Progress on previous child goal.
 - » Possible priorities that emerged from the conversation during the Opening and from conversation about past goals/recent assessment data.
- Review shared observations and assessment data to confirm what the child is doing now relative to the selected goal.
- Co-determine what the child could reasonably be expected to be doing by the next home visit relative to the selected goal.
- Set the goal: By the next time we meet _____ will be _____.
- Jointly determine activities/experiences that are likely to be effective in helping the child meet the selected goal.
- Identify experiences/activities that offer learning opportunities related to the goal.

D. Reflect on the Home Visit Plan from the last visit – Family Goal

- Review family progress since the last visit specific to previously selected family goal.
- Discuss which action steps have worked and which haven't to make progress on family goal.

E. Develop New Home Visit Plan – Family Goal and Action Steps

- Co-determine whether to continue with the previous family goal, revise the previous goal or select a new goal. Consider:
 - » Progress on previous Home Visit Plan family goal, and priorities that emerged from the conversation during the Opening.
- Determine progress that can be made by the family in reaching the selected goal between now and the next visit (or another short-term date).
- Co-determine action steps needed to make progress toward family goal.
- Co-determine timeline for meeting action steps and reaching goal.

F. Home Visit Plan Implementation

- Discuss parent and educator roles in implementing the Home Visit Plan.
- Discuss communication between home visits. How will parent and educator stay in touch about how the Home Visit Plan is working?

G. Agency Paperwork

III. CLOSING

A. Reflection

- What went well during this visit?
- What are each (parent and educator) feeling good about?
- What, if any, are parent questions/concerns?

B. Review and Finalize Plan

- Confirm communication between now and next visit.
- Discuss possible ideas for the next visit.
- Review and finalize Home Visit Plan.
- Provide a copy of the Home Visit Plan to the parent.

Notes:

