



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-School Partnership 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-School Partnership 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. Partnership Plan Implementation

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

E. 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 Partnership Plan.
- Provide a copy of the Partnership Plan to the parent.

Notes:

