

Early Years - Learning Zone/ Provision Observation

Learning Zone/ Provision:
Date: Session.....
Observer/s

Focus for observation	Comments on observation	Areas for development/points to be shared with colleagues
Are the resources of a suitable variety and do they encourage choice?		
Are there too many, or not enough, resources?		
Are the resources old and worn? Do they need reviewing?		
Are the resources well labelled and accessible for children to select independently?		
How are children encouraged to care for and use the equipment and resources appropriately?		
How is the learning zone organised? Do the resources challenge and stimulate children? Do they meet the children's developmental needs as learners, enabling them to investigate, be curious and develop their thinking?		
Is there any dominant use? For example, boys as opposed to girls; younger children as opposed to older; children with special needs; children with English as an Additional Language?		
What planned enrichment is added to the provision to continue to stimulate interest and give opportunities for children to consolidate and deepen their learning?		

Guidance for observing a Learning Zone or Area of Early Years Provision:

Here are some of the issues which a Practitioner may wish to consider when assessing the effectiveness of Early Years Provision.

Choose a learning zone that you would like to develop or one that is working well.

Where possible, try to involve more than one Practitioner when observing this area of provision.

Carry out two observations in the same learning zone, possibly at different times of the day and days of the week.

You may not have enough evidence to complete all of the boxes. Use the information to build a picture of what equipment/resources is being used and how.

Include comments which are positive, to celebrate with others, as well as those identifying areas for future development.

Use the observation comments as the starting point for discussion with colleagues and in order to reflect on Early Years Provision.

Include comments about what the children are doing e.g. if a child brings equipment/resources from another zone, or only stays briefly and then returns.