

## Training Activity Instructions

**Name of Activity: Understanding Age-Expected Skills and Behaviors**

**Learning Objective:** Participants will age anchor skills and behaviors for a 30-month old using a selected age-expected child development resource/tool.

**Activity Time:** 30 minutes

**Materials:**

- *Age-Expected, Immediate Foundational, & Foundational Skills/Behaviors Activity Sheet:* [http://ectacenter.org/eco/assets/pdfs/AE-IF-F\\_activity\\_30\\_month\\_old.pdf](http://ectacenter.org/eco/assets/pdfs/AE-IF-F_activity_30_month_old.pdf)
- *Age-Expected, Immediate Foundational, & Foundational Skills/Behaviors Activity Answer Key:* [http://ectacenter.org/eco/assets/pdfs/AE-IF-F\\_activity-ANSWER\\_KEY.pdf](http://ectacenter.org/eco/assets/pdfs/AE-IF-F_activity-ANSWER_KEY.pdf)
- Copies of an age-expected development resource/tool used by the participants in attendance
- Flip chart (prepare chart by drawing a 3-column table; label each column with the name of an outcome area, e.g., Outcomes 1: Positive Social Relationships)
- Markers (for flip chart)
- Blank paper (for participant notetaking)
- Pens/pencils

**Preparation:**

1. Seat participants in groups of 4-6 and ask each group to assign a Facilitator and a Reporter.
2. Give one copy of the *Age-Expected, Immediate Foundational, & Foundational Skills/Behaviors Activity Sheet* to each participant.
3. Give a piece of notetaking paper and copy of the age anchoring tool to each group.

**Instructions:**

1. Begin the activity by asking participants to spend 5-10 minutes brainstorming age-expected skills and behaviors for a 30-month-old child in each of the three outcome area, with the Facilitator leading the discussion and Reporter taking notes on a blank piece of paper.
2. When the groups are finished, ask each Reporter to share 2-3 skills/behaviors from his/her group's discussion for one outcome area, beginning with Outcome 1. If participants give answers that are not age-expected for a 30-month-old child, refer them to the provided age anchoring tool for clarification.
3. Ask each participant to independently complete the *Age-Expected, Immediate Foundational, & Foundational Skills/Behaviors Activity Sheet*.

4. As a large group, review each skill/behavior listed and discuss the extent to which the skill is AE, IF, or F for a 30-month-old child. Use the *Age-Expected, Immediate Foundational, & Foundational Skills/Behaviors Activity Answer Key* to provide the correct answers along with explanations.

*Variation:* Trainers may choose to supplement this activity by using a video representing a 30-month-old child. Videos could be state- or locally-developed, if available, or streamed from one of the websites below. *Be sure to follow instructions related to permission for use.*

- Colorado Department of Education Results Matter website (top under the tab “Clips for Practicing Observation, Documentation and Assessment Skills”):  
[http://www.cde.state.co.us/resultsmatter/RMVideoSeries\\_PracticingObservation.htm](http://www.cde.state.co.us/resultsmatter/RMVideoSeries_PracticingObservation.htm)
  - Desired Results access Project website under “Practice Clips”:  
<http://draccess.org/videolibrary/>
5. Debrief and facilitate a large group discussion that focuses on the following key points associated with this activity:
    - a. Knowing the age at which we typically see certain skills and behaviors prior to observation or meeting with the family can help frame the information gathered during observations and conversations.
    - b. Effectively age anchoring a child’s skills and behaviors is critical to using of the COS 7-point scale and assigning accurate ratings.
    - c. The use of age anchoring tools and resources is ensures that each member of the COS team has an understanding of what age-expected child development looks like. It’s not enough to guess or to try to remember without using a tool.