

Natural Environment Learning Opportunities Checklist

This checklist includes the types of environmental events/factors and adult (parent or practitioner) practices that can be used to engage children in everyday activities to encourage and sustain child learning in the activities. The checklist includes a mix of interest-based child learning opportunities and adult positive (contingent) responsiveness to sustain child participation in the learning activities. The

checklist indicators can be used by a practitioner to develop a plan to use the practices with a child or to promote a parent's use of the practices. The checklist rating scale can be used to do a self-evaluation to determine whether the different practice characteristics were part of using the practices with a child or promoting a parent's use of the practices.

Practitioner: _____ Child: _____ Date: _____

Please indicate which practice characteristics you were able to use with a child:	Seldom or never (0 - 25%)	Some of the time (25 - 50%)	As often as I can (50 - 75%)	Most of the time (75 - 100%)	Notes
1. Observe the child in everyday activities to identify child and environmental factors that attract the child's attention	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2. Identify the everyday family activities and daily routines that the child finds most interesting and enjoyable	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3. Select those activities that provide the most opportunities for the child to acquire targeted behavior and use behavior capabilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
4. Promote and encourage child participation in the everyday activities and routines used as contexts for child learning	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
5. Respond positively (contingently) to the child's behavior in the everyday activities to sustain child engagement and play	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
6. Join in the activities and provide support and guidance to sustain child engagement in targeted behavior	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7. Encourage child behavior elaborations by using different instructional strategies (modeling, shaping, etc.) to expand upon the child's behavioral skills	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

This checklist is based upon the following *DEC Recommended Practices*: Environment 1, 3, 4, 6
 The DEC Recommended Practices are available at <http://dec-sped.org/recommendedpractices>
 Access this checklist and other products at <http://ectacenter.org/decrp>
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