# Aligning Functional Skills with the Three Child Outcomes

## Step 1. Provide Detail

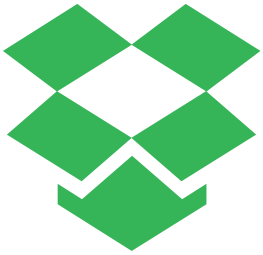
Is there sufficient detail that describes what the child is doing?

If not, the team will have to gather more information. If the information is too broad or nebulous, teams will struggle to understand the child's skills.

## Step 2. Convey Function

Does the detail convey the functional nature of the child's skills?

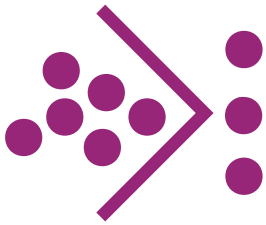
Teams must not only gather detailed information about a child's skills, but they must also gather detailed information about how the child uses those skills across the settings and situations in their day-today actions and interactions.



## Step 3. Unpack into Functional Skills

Does the observation of the child's functioning include multiple skills? Do the skills require unpacking to align with an outcome?

Observations and conversations with caregivers often provide information about multiple skills. When this occurs, teams must unpack the information by separating them into functional skills that can be effectively aligned with one of the three child outcomes.



## Step 4. Align with an Outcome

To which skill bundle and outcome does each functional skill align?

With detailed descriptions of a child's functional skills, sufficiently unpacked, teams can align those skills with the appropriate outcome and corresponding skill bundle.

**KEY RESOURCE:** Each of the three child outcomes encompasses an array of functional skills. The *Breadth of the Three Child Outcomes* highlights six bundles of functional skills associated with each outcome. The bundles help teams consider the breadth of a child's functioning within each outcome and align skills with an outcome to determine accurate Child Outcomes Summary (COS) Process ratings.

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