

# DIGGING DEEPER

## EFFECTIVE ASSESSMENT



### Assessment for Decision Making

#### DIGGING IN



**Resource:** The California Early Childhood Educator Competencies, Child Development and Learning

*(Follow the link below to access this resource or pull it off your bookshelf!)*

<http://youtu.be/TLi0mvqIWik?list=PLhOEvkEub6hFZnVYwzEIY695fUllfs0G7>

#### ACTIVITY

Watch from 2:10 to 2:50 in the video to see a group of children building with blocks joined by their teacher. As you watch, notice the teacher's strategies for gathering everyday evidence and think about how she might use this evidence to make decisions.

#### GUIDING QUESTIONS

- How did the teacher weave assessment into her everyday experience of interacting with children in the block area?
- How did the teacher arrange the environment to support ongoing assessment?
- From her observations, what do you think the teacher learned about the development of these children?
- Refer to the Desired Results Developmental Profile (DRDP; [http://www.desiredresults.us/form\\_drdp.htm](http://www.desiredresults.us/form_drdp.htm)). How does the evidence provide information about the children's development?
- What in-the-moment decisions did the teacher make while interacting with children? How did her observations inform her interactions?
- At the end of the video, two boys show interest in rolling a ball down block tracks. How might the teacher use this evidence to make decisions that extend this learning experience?

#### DIGGING IN



**Resource:** Early Head Start National Resource Center

*(Follow the link below to access this resource or pull it off your bookshelf!)*

[http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/hs/resources/ECLKC\\_Bookstore/PDFs/TA10%5B1%5D.pdf](http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/hs/resources/ECLKC_Bookstore/PDFs/TA10%5B1%5D.pdf)

#### ACTIVITY

Read the vignette about Carol on page 1. As you read, think about Carol's behaviors and how you might support her.

#### GUIDING QUESTIONS

- How would you describe Carol's behaviors and interactions?
- How might you use this evidence to make decisions that support Carol's development?
- Which of Carol's behaviors would you like to observe further?
- How would you assess these behaviors as part of everyday routines?
- To dig even deeper, follow Carol's story through the article. Consider how assessment informed the teacher's interactions and responses to support Carol's learning and development.

#### KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- How could you use what you have learned through this activity to enhance your own assessment practices?
- How might you enhance your use of observational evidence in making decisions about individual children in your group?