

Assessment for Decision Making: *Assessment Types*

Use these ideas and questions to build on what you've learned and extend your practice.

THINK ABOUT IT!

- **Self-Reflection**

Use these questions to think about your own practice.

- **Reflect with Others**

Supervisors, directors, coaches, and teachers/providers can be reflective partners.

- **The Power of Practice**

Invite a colleague to join you; observe or record each other and share ideas.

REFLECTIVE QUESTIONS

- What types of assessments do I currently use?
- How do I use information from different types of assessment to make decisions?
- What small changes can I make to use information from ongoing child assessment in planning relevant learning opportunities for children?
- How do I respond to feedback from program assessment? Can I be open to embracing feedback from program assessment as constructive and helpful to me in my role as a teacher/provider?
- What challenges do I face when I need to discuss developmental screening and diagnostic evaluation with children's families? What supports do I need to address the challenges?

TRY IT OUT!

Try out these ideas to stretch your ongoing child assessment skills. Choose one of the following times during the day to collect evidence about children's development and learning:

Indoor free choice | Outdoor play | Large group
Small group | Transitions | Routines

- Observe children during this time of the day for at least 10 minutes.
- Use one or two documentation methods such as photos, samples of children's work, or notes.
- Take 15 to 20 uninterrupted minutes to reflect on the evidence you've collected. What does this evidence tell you about the children's development, learning, and interests? What patterns do you see? What surprised you? What other documentation methods could you use?
- Identify one or more ways you will adapt your interactions with children or planned learning activities and try out your ideas.

How Did It Go?

Reflect on your ongoing child assessment practice exercise. What worked and why? What challenges did you face in observing, documenting, or using evidence? What might you try next time?

What Next?

Practice again! Try this exercise every day to strengthen your practice of ongoing child assessment. Each time, use different documentation methods. Use the next pack in this bundle, *Screening*, to learn about the importance and best practices of universal developmental screening.