

Why Observation?

Why observation? How do teachers benefit?

- 1. To build relationships with children:**
 - Get to know each child
 - Respect and appreciate children
 - Connect with children
 - Foster children's competence and success

- 2. To become a skilled observer:**
 - What do I want to find out?
 - When and where should I observe?
 - How do I record what I observe?
 - How do I organize the information I collect?

- 3. To observe and document effectively:**
 - Observe over time
 - Watch children in varied situations
 - Record what you observe
 - Organize the information you collect

Adapted from J.R. Jablon, A.L. Dombro, and M.L. Dichtelmiller, *The Power of Observation from Birth through Eight* (2nd Ed). Washington DC: Teaching Strategies & NAEYC, 2007, iii. © The authors. Used with permission.

Taken from *Young Children* March 2011, "Observation and Early Childhood Teaching: Evolving Fundamentals," by Stuart Reifel

http://www.naeyc.org/files/yc/file/201103/OurProudHeritage_Online0311.pdf