
Appendix 2

COI Interpreting Thinking Checklist and COI Interpreting Thinking Form

COI Interpreting Thinking Checklist

Briefly review your COI Interpreting Thinking form for the purpose of developing skill in each of these areas for building an emergent inquiry curriculum.

Focus on children's knowledge and thinking

- ☐ Did you describe significant (possibly meaningful) events in the children's play?
- ☐ Did you capture your thoughts about why these events were significant?
- ☐ Did you interpret events as indicators of the thinking of children, not just their interests or needs?
- ☐ Did you speculate on the goals behind the actions of the children?
- ☐ Did you speculate on what knowledge and theories of the world made these actions strategic or sensible to children?

Focus on differing children's perspectives

- ☐ Did you look at the events from the children's perspectives, to wonder how they experienced things?
- ☐ Did you describe and question unexpected events that indicate when children see things differently?

Focus on learning opportunities in the play

- ☐ Did you look ahead to how your ideas might be used in planning?
- ☐ Did you articulate various hypotheses about opportunities in the play to extend the children's development, knowledge, or understanding?
- ☐ Did you describe in the narrative what you saw or heard that led you to your ideas?
- ☐ Did you look back and ahead to see whether you and the children are pursuing distinct threads of inquiry?

Cycle of Inquiry

Interpreting Thinking

IT

Tag:
Interpreters:

Date:

Speculate on what the children are doing and thinking.

In the next two boxes, keep in mind that you're looking for emerging threads of play that have the most potential for advancing play toward children's inquiry. **You are forming a context for interpreting what you saw.**

Write a narrative using as much **descriptive language** as possible to tell the reader what you think this play was about. Write freely. Within your description, **speculate with statements** like "I think they are doing X because of Y."

Look at the above paragraph. Imagine you are the child/children you wrote about. Be those children and write what you are thinking. (We ask you to complete this task to help you dig a bit more deeply into the perspective of the child.)