

Spontaneous Experience Planning Form

Student Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Part One: Observe and Listen. Fill this in as a reflection after your experience. You will still be thinking about these three questions. They will be based on your recognition of, and response to, a child's (or children's) immediate interests or challenges. Remember that you are following their lead or scaffolding their play.

What caught your attention as the children explored and interacted? What did you think was important about their experience? What drew you into the action and made you decide to support, deepen or extend the experience?

So what...did it mean? Did the experience grow out of an unexpected event? Did you recognize a problem that the children were facing in their play or thinking? Was it inspired by a child's questions or requests?

Now what...did you do with this information? What did you do to extend the experience and/or the learning?

Part Two: Reflect with Others

At some point after the experience has finished, share your observations and interpretations with your mentor educator. Ask for their feedback. What insight have they given you?

Mentor Educator's Initials	
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Part Three: Plan Responses

When was it carried out?	Where was it carried out?
How long did it last?	How many children participated?
What materials did you use? Did you bring in more materials? What were they?	

Part Four: Act

Describe what happened when you provided the experience. How did it support the children's opportunities for investigation? What did you say and do? What kind of questions did you ask? How did the activity evolve after you responded? Remember this is about you as the educator, not the children. Do not interpret yet.

Part Five: Continued Observation

How did the children respond to your participation? Did they fully embrace your responses?

Part Five: Continued Observation

What does this tell you about the experience? What was valuable about the experience? Does it give you any new information about the children’s interests, developmental capabilities and relationships?

Part Six: Next Steps

If you were to do this experience again, what would you change? If you would not change anything, why do you think it was successful?

Based on your continued observations in part five, what ideas do you have for any future experiences? This is to answer the question “Now What?”

Mentor Educator Feedback

Additional comments and feedback. Do you have any additional insight or information that could inform the student’s practice?

Mentor Signature: _____ Student Signature: _____

Practicum Advisor Signature: _____