

## SUGGESTED EXERCISES

# Observing a child playing alone in a symbolic play area



**Video:** Child playing alone in the kitchen

## OBJECTIVES

- Analyzing the profession.
- Creating a safe environment in an educational childcare centre.
- Promoting children's holistic development.
- Organizing the educational environment.
- Integrating the language and culture of belonging into educational practices.
- Working with children with special needs.
- Assessing educational quality.

## ACTIVITY DETAILS

Approximate duration: multiple sessions





#### STEP 4

**4.1** Individually, note all the elements in the video clip that demonstrate the environment is safe for the child in the table below.

**Note here all the elements observed in the video clip that demonstrate the environment is safe for the child.**

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#### STEP 5

**5.1** If the course is in-person, offer arts and crafts materials (pencils, cardboard, a variety of paper, fabric, glue, etc.). If the course is online, request access to these materials at least two weeks before the exercise.

#### STEP 6

**6.1** Split into teams of three and create a room layout plan, following these guidelines:

- The room should be designed for children of a specific age group (as chosen by the team).
- The room must contain at least three well-defined play areas.
- The room must be configured with elements of the culture and language of belonging.
- The room must allow for different intensities of play.
- The room must be safe and promote children’s health.
- The room should be adapted for children with special needs.



**STEP 7**

**7.1** List the materials and games associated with your room layout plan.

Materials	Games

**STEP 8**

**8.1** Share your room layout plan with the entire group.

**STEP 9**

**9.1** As a group, begin the discussion by asking the following questions:

- What is your takeaway from this activity?
- What did you learn about your teamwork skills?
- In the video clip, what draws your attention regarding child development?



## ADDITIONAL SUGGESTED EXERCISES

1. Make connections between what the children do in the video clip and your own memories of childhood symbolic play.
  - a. What is the same?
  - b. What is different?
  - c. What is beneficial to the child in symbolic play?
2. Make a list of everyday and culturally significant objects that could be added to the area presented in the video clip.
3. Hold a talking circle about observing the temperament of the child in the video clip.
4. Create an illustration that represents how important it is to integrate traditions into children's education.
5. Build a compendium of activities for children that are relevant to their traditions and culture of belonging.

