

SUGGESTED EXERCISES

Observing a discussion and Cree writing activity



Video: Cree alphabet

OBJECTIVES

- Establishing positive communication in an educational childcare centre.
- Promoting children's holistic development.
- Observing the development and behaviour of children.
- Building a positive relationship with children.
- Building a relationship of trust with children's families.
- Planning democratic educational interventions.
- Integrating the language and culture of belonging into educational practices.
- Assessing educational quality.

ACTIVITY DETAILS

Approximate duration: 3 hrs



STEP 1

1.1 Watch the video clip as a group or individually.

STEP 2

2.1 In teams of two or three, reflect on the roles that educational childcare centres (ECCs) play in language development and identify these roles.

STEP 3

3.1 As a group or individually, watch the clip a second time and answer the following four questions:

- What is the pedagogical stance of the educator who is facilitating the discussion?
- What goals does the educator set with regard to child development?
- How does the educator concretely support child development?
- What elements can you observe that show the educator's availability for the children in her group?

STEP 4

4.1 To go further, watch the clip again, as a group or individually, and answer the following probing questions:

- What are the best practices to support language development among children?
- Share some examples of elements you can observe in the clip that show how the environment supports language development among children.
- Share some examples of things you can hear in the clip that show how the environment supports children's development.
- How could you build a literacy-themed play area to promote reading and writing awareness?
- If you were the educator facilitating the discussion, how would you foster collaboration with parents in supporting their child's language development?

4.2 Take the group's reflection on child holistic development a step further.

- In teams of two or three, identify how language development and the transmission of the mother tongue influence the other spheres of child development.



STEP 5

5.1 As a group, take the discussion further and enhance your learning by asking the following additional questions:

- What is your takeaway from this activity?
- What did you find surprising in this clip?
- What would you do differently?
- What do you think of the available materials and the space layout?
- How would the educator explain this activity and its goals to parents?

