

READ AND REFLECT 6: OBSERVING FOCUSED EXPLORATION

Name: _____

Observe a small group of children (two to four) engaged in focused exploration, and complete an observation record (p. 116 in the teacher's guide). Respond to these questions as you reflect on what you observed.

1. What characterizes this activity as focused exploration?
2. What science inquiry skills were the children using? Refer to the science outcomes chart in the teacher's guide and make specific connections between the skills listed and children's comments and behaviors.
3. What science concepts were the children exploring? Refer to the outcomes chart and make specific connections between the concepts listed and your children's comments and behaviors.
4. What might be appropriate next steps for these children? Please explain how each idea will encourage further inquiry and promote deeper science understandings. Refer to specific steps in the teacher's guide.
5. How would you rate the quality of your observation notes? Did you record descriptive details that were useful when reflecting? What might you want to do differently next time?