

How to Make a Lesson Plan - The 3Rs

A. REFLECT

- A. **WHAT** are the children doing? Saying? Feeling?
 - *Brainstorm a list*
- B. **WHO** is doing what?
 - *Be specific*
- C. **WHY** are the children interested? What is it about the material or experience that is motivating the children? What are the children trying to figure out? What questions are they asking (verbally or non-verbally)?
 - *From the above list choose a material or experience to analyze (e.g. block building).*
 - *Interpret what the children are experiencing internally (e.g. the children appear to enjoy the sound the blocks make when they fall).*
 - *Use the children’s actual work (e.g. block towers) and/or documentation of the children (videotape of the children watching blocks fall down) to make the analysis more authentic.*
 - *Search for threads that connect this interest to others to enable integration of learning experiences (e.g. the children have also been banging on different materials in the classroom to make different sounds).*
 - *Choose an interest to plan out (e.g. sound).*

B. RESPOND

- A. **WHERE** can we go from here? How do we build upon the children’s interest? Consider:
 - *Provocations* – How will we inspire further exploration and investigation?
 - *Questions* – Which questions will we ask the children to further the interest?
 - *Environment* – Which physical changes can we make in the classroom?
 - *Documentation* – What will we document and how?
 - *Families* – How can we involve the children’s families?
 - *Staff Meetings* – What will we discuss at our meetings?
 - *Skills* – Which skills do we need to enable their further learning?
 - *Ideas and Values* – Which ideas and values underpin this interest?
- B. **WHEN** will we do it? Prioritize and place on a weekly schedule.

C. REVISIT

- A. What happened? What did not happen?
- B. What will we follow up upon? What requires further reflection? What will we try again?