

HOW TO USE AN ANECDOTAL RECORD

- Method is used after the event has occurred
- Written in past tense
- Record what the child has said and done, their body language, direct quotes, facial expressions and tone of voice
- Tells us something about the child's development, interest, skills and needs
- Recorded in sequential order to focus on important details
- May focus on a single area of development or cover a number of developmental areas at once

EXAMPLE

Child's Name: Rose

Child's Age: 4.3

Location: Outdoor area sandpit

Date of Observation: 25/08/2019

OBSERVATION

Rose and M sat in the sandpit and Rose began using her hands to scoop up the sand and cover her feet. M then joined in the game as she said "let's cover all our legs under the sand". They both began to scoop the sand up with their hands to cover their legs. Rose then began to use a spade to scoop the sand over both of their legs as they made a big "leg hill". S then joined them in the sandpit and used a spade to begin covering her feet with sand. They made a game where they would say "look I have no feet" then they would push their feet out saying "oops here they are". I joined in this game with them and there was lots of giggles and laughter. The girls continued this process for about 20 minutes until it was time to go inside and have lunch.

ANALYSIS FOR LEARNING

Rose's language skills enable her to give directions and engage in conversation with other children. She is using grammatically correct sentences.

Rose's gross motor skills allow her to use a shovel with control and purpose. Socially she is able to play with another child and appears to be engaging in Cooperative Play.

They tried different ways of covering their legs and feet so they were buried underneath. While doing this they explored cause and effect as well as problem solving and trial and error.

LINK TO EYLF: Learning Outcome. 4.2 Children develop a range of skills and processes such as problem solving, inquiry, experimentation, hypothesising, researching and investigating. Rose manipulates the sand and experiments with cause and effect, trial and error, and motion.

EXTENSION OF LEARNING: Treasure hunt, hide a range of different "treasures" in the sand pit for the children to find and discover- Use the children's interest in sand to encourage more exploration and discovery.