

LEARNING ASSESSMENT OF TODDLERS

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Introduction

Every child is different from another, the learning and development are the milestones that act as a guide for a child's development. Some of the children learn and develop several skills early from expected age and some of them learn and develop skills little later. There are several guidelines and principles to supervise the growth and development among the children such as ECEC (Bambach et al., 2018). Along with there is a framework EYLF or Early Years Learning Framework, that is used in this study to assess children's learning ability and emphasize children's early learning procedure.

SECTION 1

Part- A: Personal philosophy to ECEC for infants and toddlers

Best way to teach toddler

Children from the age group 0 to 2 years are regarded as the infants and the toddlers. Learning is a fundamental part of toddlers learning and development period. Recognizing and paying attention to physical, mental, cognitive, social wellbeing is the main aspect of learning. Toddler development counts as developmental milestones in which they learn the connection between family and society with the help of wellbeing and cognitive skills. According to Bambach et al., (2018), EYLF or early years learning framework mainly consist of three elements, principles, practice and learning outcomes. This framework helps in this study to reflect about the study and design an appropriate learning structure for the toddlers. Following the Early Year Learning Framework, the best way to teach toddlers and children are-

- Being respectful, mutual and secure relationship

- Showing respect for the diversity and developing equity
- Learning through partnership and reflection
- Learning through playing

Factors that influence the way of learning of the toddlers

As previously discussed, the teaching of the toddlers should be based on a holistic approach with an aim of physical, social as well as cognitive development. The learning of the toddlers depends on several factors that influences their social, physical and cognition of the children. Hence, their family, environment and home life, their parents and guardians and more affects the learning of the children. As learned from NIH (2021), the factors that influence the learning of the toddlers are the education of the parents, income of the family, quality of the care being provided to the children, stability in the home environment and more.

Role of parents and developing partnership in toddler learning

As learned from Soltero-González & Gillanders (2021), parents have a crucial role in the facilitation of the toddlers' learning and development. Developing partnership with the parents has multi-functional benefits as parents are the first human child interacts and starts learning from. Parental partnership helps the children in the development of the social interactive skills, enhances the efficacy of the teachers' role and more (Tus, 2021).

Implementation of EYLF in toddler learning

There are five principles that needs to be followed for the implementation of EYLF in the toddler education.

Respectful, mutual and secure relationship: It is essential to respect and feel secure to the toddlers while learning, because positively interacting with the toddlers actually enhances their learning ability and develops wellbeing for others.

Respect for diversity: Respecting others region, culture, beliefs, language, tradition, as whole respecting the diversity of the society. It is important for the toddlers to learn from the teacher as well as care professionals and family the value of diversity at their early age.

Partnerships: According to Bambach et al., (2018), toddlers learn from the actions of others, this is the reason to teach them the value of partnership with friends, family, childcare professionals and even with community at early age.

High expectations and equity: Although all children are not the same in terms of learning and development, it is crucial to accept that all children are capable of learning in spite of their beliefs, religion, culture. It is important for the teacher to consider all children as equal and treated as the same.

Inclusion of children with different abilities in educational environment

Every individual and every child encompass different abilities and talents. According to the 2008 Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities of the United Nations it is essential to include every child in the educational environment irrespective of their abilities (Sullivan-Sego, Ro & Park, 2016). In order to incorporate all the children with diverse abilities in the educational environment, educational institutes must develop inclusive culture among their staff as well as their students and accept diverse abilities and disabilities with empathy.

Part- B: Reflection of personal philosophy to ECEC from infants to toddlers

Goals

- Developing self-confidence and making them more independent.

- Enhancing creativity among the children.
- Developing social-interacting skills and cultural competency among the children.
- Elevating partnership abilities among the children.

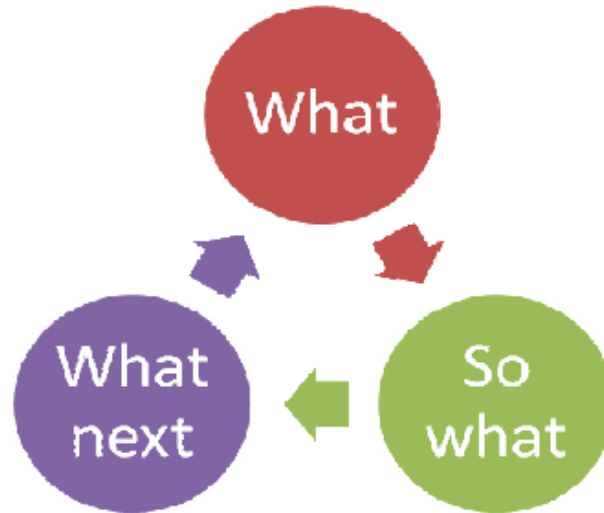


Figure 1: Rolf's reflective cycle

Source: Paku & Lay (2011)

What: ECEC is mainly a guideline to help the learning and development of the 1-6 years toddlers and their parents with a positive and secured approach (Harm et al., 2017). This is what I followed in order to observe the infants and the toddlers by appreciating toddlers by neglecting their social status or cast actually produces a healthy and positive environment for the toddlers to learn more efficiently. As observed in the video of Youtube (2021), the toddlers have the abilities to observe and learn more efficiently. Engaging children by a playful learning approach enhances the learning ability as seen in Youtube (2021). According to Cassidy et al., (2017), the principle of ECEC consists of three approaches to identify the responsive relationships for toddlers, improving core skills for planning and achieving the goals, and reduction of stress in the toddlers and their families lives. ECEC mainly concentrates on changing the policy and design of the learning process on individual toddlers' needs.

What next? Individual skill developing plans enhance the learning capacity because toddlers feel secure and they get attention and care. Therefore, I target the toddlers to enhance the learning capability by different playful activities such as solving puzzles matching shapes, matching colours and others which would increase their learning as well as concentration power. On a serious note, the inequality of the society haunts the children for life long and creates extensive challenges which reduce their development which needs to be addressed urgently. During the assessment of toddlers' learning ability, I noticed many positive approaches that make a remark in terms of toddlers' healthy upbringing. The positive responses of the infants and toddlers made me more efficient in enhancing their learning processes. However, there are many difficulties such as inequality in society, individual attention, and responsive care which distracted from my focus.

So what? Therefore, these issues should be prioritized as an important aspect of toddlers' development. Further, I realised that toddlers' special needs have to be addressed properly with more patience and care. In this case, I preferred engaging family is the best option. Moreover, the involvement of community has also a bigger role because a toddler learns more actively from their parents and neighbours. Learning cognitive skills at toddlers' age is a little tricky but if this process is less difficult when the parents are engaged with the process. As I noticed from the video Youtube (2021), toddlers easily act responsive and attract with playful activities which enhances cognitive development and thus help in taking care of their own physical and mental wellbeing.

SECTION 2

Documentation

Anecdotal observation record and analysis

Date and Time: 20/07/21 to 28/07/21	Children (ages) in observation 1 To 3 years toddlers
Setting: Both indoor and outdoor session	People present: 3 toddlers with their family members and childcare professionals.
<p><u>1. Record the observation:</u></p> <p>Toddlers develop cognitive skills, touches of care, responsive attitude for society and environment, physical and mental care developed.</p>	<p><u>2. Educators’ principles and practices evident</u></p> <p>Five principles of EYLF used in this study like respect for diversity, partnerships, high expectations and equity and ongoing learning and reflective practices. On the other hand, Holistic practices, learning through play, responsive to toddlers and cultural competency practices used to develop healthy approaches for positive learning environment for toddlers.</p> <p><u>3. Analysis of children’s learning:</u></p> <p>There are several guidelines and principles to supervise the growth and development among the children such as ECEC and EYLF. Along with there is a framework EYLF or Early Years Learning Framework, that is used in this study to assess children's learning ability and emphasize children's early learning</p>

	<p>procedure.</p> <p>a. <u>Theoretical links to learning and development</u></p> <p>The ECEC and EYLF framework mainly describes the developmental milestones for toddlers, learning ability which develops by positive and playful learning process. Positive learning approach directly emphasizes the wellbeing and interest of the toddlers to learn more. Assessment of the learning ability gained by childcare professionals and teachers by observing the toddler and every bit of their learning process. ECEC is implemented for the toddlers of 1-3 years old to enhance their psycho social and mental health ability recognized by AAIMH. As suggested by ECEC it is essential to provide a warm, secured as well as responsive child care or teacher which builds up a courageous ambience for learning and developing skills.</p> <p>b. <u>Children’s Strengths and interests</u></p> <p>The strength and interest of the infant and toddlers varies. Toddlers have a strong</p>
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	<p>identity as well as reciprocal capacity if they have a positive and courageous environment. Development of environmental responsibility, social equality is as important as it helps them to be a responsible individual human in future. Emphasizing the toddler's response towards diversity is necessary for the community even for the society as well. Toddlers' ability and interest grows with time if they learn from positive challenges. Toddlers become socially responsible if they explore cognitive skills and values from the community they belong to. Social values and emotional wellbeing initially play as a strength for their learning and development. Playful indoor and outdoor learning increase their ability to identify challenges for their physical and mental wellbeing.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">c. <u>EYLF Learning outcomes with indicators</u></p> <p>Toddlers started communicate with others with the help of cognitive skills, responsive</p>
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	<p>towards health of others and themselves, and careful for environment and society.</p> <p>d. <u>Future planning ideas</u></p> <p>It is important to observe individual toddlers because every child is different from one to another and their needs are different.</p> <p>Observing toddlers and recognizing their needs and planning a learning cycle is crucial.</p> <p>Creating learning opportunities for all children in spite of their social status, religion, caste and community</p>
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Planning

<i>Assessment 1 –LEARNING EXPERIENCE PLAN</i>				
Child's name/s	Age/s	Date and Time:	Student/observer name	
<p>Aim/objective</p> <p>The main aim of this study is to identify the learning outcomes of toddlers by implementing EYLF or Early Years Learning Framework. Here outcomes refer to goals achieved by the toddlers during their learning period.</p>				
<p>Rationale</p> <p>According to Smith & Slone, (2017), EYLF is important for early learning of a toddler, to identify their ability and what they can achieve rather than their inabilities. Every child is special and different from others, so the ability and learning outcomes of the children differ from one another. The EYLF is a development guide which comprises principles, practices and learning outcomes. Implementing the appropriate curriculum is important for the educator to identify the outcomes as well as the key input used by the toddlers while learning a particular thing. The planning cycle for toddlers while implementing EYLF consists of a learning environment, learning from community, learning through play, developing wellbeing, and a holistic approach.</p>				
<p>Setting and timing</p> <p>Both indoor and outdoor setting will be followed. 20/07/21 to 28/07/21</p>				
Timing	Procedure- how you will implement this Plan	Considerations- space, time, supervision	Environment: Resources/materials required	Pedagogical approaches

	<p>Toddlerhood is one of the crucial stages of life where a child starts learning. There are certain principles that are needed to be followed in order to the incorporation of toddler development in terms of cognition, social skills, physical development and more.</p> <p>During the time of incorporating teaching children and developing them, parental participation, observation, and incorporation of teaching according to the needs of the children has been found to be quite effective.</p> <p>Toddlerhood being crucial and toddlers being the future of the society, it is quite essential to promote their development. Hence, the teachers and parents should cooperate and facilitate the growth of social, physical and cognitive development of the children.</p>			
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Assessment & Reflection on practice

NB This does not need completion for this Assessment task 1- it is provided to give you an example of what happens after you implement your plan

Record what happened:

After the implementation of the ECEC system in the development of professional ability among the toddlers, children have been found to show certain development. The ability of the children to express their thoughts, playing with other children, interacting with their teachers as well as other have improved. However, involving parents in the planning have been found to be quite difficult. Some of the parents participated in the program willingly while some could not and in some cases either one of the parents could participate. Parental participation being a crucial factor for early development this have limited the development of some of the children. Moreover, it has been found that children are more enthusiastic for outdoor setting learning than the indoor learnings and it has imposed certain challenge on the staff to teach students with equal efficacy in outdoor and indoor settings.

Evaluate and analyse what the children learnt (link to EYLF Learning Outcomes and indicators):

The ECEC and EYLF framework mainly describes the developmental milestones for toddlers, learning ability which develops by positive and playful learning process. Positive learning approach directly emphasizes the wellbeing and interest of the toddlers to learn more. Assessment of the learning ability gained by childcare professionals and teachers by observing the toddler and every bit of their learning process. ECEC is implemented for the toddlers of 1-3 years old to enhance their psycho social and mental health ability recognized by AAIMH (Degotardi, 2017). Cognitive skill development is also a part of toddlers' learning phase, as mentioned in EYLF principles cognitive learning mainly built with social interaction and outdoor learning process. It is crucial for the teacher or child care personnel to help them explore and discover the environment by outdoor learning, this will help the toddlers to understand their responsibility towards society and environmental wellbeing. According to Smith & Slone, (2017), respecting all cultures and giving them the same learning opportunities is also needed for

EYLF and ECEC implementation.

Suggested future learning ideas:

It is important to observe individual toddlers because every child is different from one to another and their needs are different. Creating learning opportunities for all children in spite of their social status, religion, caste and community (Kemp & Josephidou, 2021). Australian Association for Infant Mental Health suggests that introducing the ECEC and EYLF framework for the toddlers' early learning stage helps to develop psycho-social development (Sajaniemi et al., 2018). This introduces care for society, environment as well as care for toddlers themselves, physical and mental security and their families. In this study anecdotal observation and record used to maintain toddlers' growth information.

Reflect on **your delivery** of the provision, effectiveness of resources, transitions, teaching strategies, questioning. Think about the skills & strategies you need to focus on improving.

An adequate number of efforts have been encompassed in the implementation of early childhood education and care. These efforts are found to be effective in the development of children as previously mentioned. However, there are certain areas that needs to be addressed for enhancing the efficacy of the system. Firstly, in order to get successful outcomes, the strengths and interests of the toddlers need to be identified. This will help the teachers to provide them with the education they are interested in and enhance the efficacy of learning. The strength and interest of the infant and toddlers varies. Toddlers have a strong identity as well as reciprocal capacity if they have a positive and courageous environment (Degotardi, 2017).

Toddlers' ability and interest grows with time if they learn from positive challenges. Toddlers become socially responsible if they explore cognitive skills and values from the community they belong to. Social values and emotional wellbeing initially play as a strength for their learning and development. Playful indoor and outdoor learning increase their ability to identify challenges for their physical and mental wellbeing. In case of improving the participation of the parents, different strategies will be incorporated. The parents will be approached by showing

them the comparison between the performance of the kids with parental participation with those with minimal to no parental involvement. This can be effective in the improvement of the degree of participation of the parents with the education of their children.

Mentor teacher:

Date:

Conclusion

Development of early childhood is an opportunity to solve many challenges present in society like, opportunity for all, respecting diversity in terms of caste, religion, economical

background differences. These mentioned differences could be minimized by introducing the values of diversity and respect for all human beings in the society by introducing playful activity for toddlers. It is also important to merge the toddler's parents and the childcare professional in this learning activity to ensure a stress-free healthy environment which is absolutely important for the better future of the child. The ECEC and EYLF framework is mainly used in this study to teach the toddler respect for all irrespective of their social and economic background, respect for all gender, wellbeing for all relationships, appreciating others achievements, and developing care for family, society and environment.

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