



# Coaching

## Joint Planning At The Beginning Of A Visit

Joint planning is one of the research-based characteristics of coaching that helps ensure caregivers have a plan for what to do between visits and at the next visit to promote child participation in commonly occurring family or classroom activities to develop needed skills. Joint planning occurs at four points during the coaching conversation with the caregiver. The two points that occur at the beginning of the visit are:

At the beginning of the visit, the coach and caregiver discuss the last between-visit plan to determine how well the plan worked and what additional support the caregiver might need.

### Revisiting the last between-visit plan

- Possible questions to ask include: Last time I was here, you were going to (insert responsive strategies caregiver was going to try) during (insert planned activity setting), how well did that work?
- What was your previous plan?
- What part of the plan will you continue to do?
- What are other activities in which you can do what you tried?
- What do you need to do differently?
- What support do you need from me at this point?

At the beginning of the visit, the coach and caregiver discuss pre-planned activity or routine for the current visit.

Moving to the plan for this visit. Possible ways to initiate the pre-planned activity at the present visit include:

Today, we had planned to focus on (insert pre-planned typical activity setting, not a skill, which is the reason why you planned your visit for this day/time).

- What do you want (child's name) to learn during this activity?
- What are you thinking you might do to help (child's name) learn during this activity?
- Are you and (child's name) ready to get started?

Looks like you and (child's name) have already started (insert pre-planned activity setting), how can you use what we've talked about before to help him in this activity?

If the caregiver and child have already completed the pre-planned activity and you did not have a back-up plan with the caregiver, ask:

- What would you and (child's name) typically be doing right now? How can we help (child's name) learn what you want him/her to do during that activity?