



Effective Early Intervention

Educators Use The Family's Natural Routines

Educators serve a valuable role on the early intervention team. When educators focus on family routines as the context for early intervention, both the parent and the child have more opportunities to practice important skills and reinforce a positive relationship with everyday learning. Educators can help caregivers think about the multitude of contexts for learning by considering the following:

The Family's Daily Schedule

The more frequently the child participates in an interest-based activity, the more opportunity the child has to learn and master skills and abilities. Daily opportunities can include mealtimes, brushing teeth, dressing, getting the mail, or taking care of pets.

The Family's Weekly Schedule

Weekly activities can still provide ample opportunities for children to engage in interest-based routines that fit the family's schedule. Weekly opportunities can include grocery shopping, going on walks, or visiting relatives.

Community Outings

Families that normally spend time out in the community can use these activities as contexts to promote child participation and learning. Community outings can include playing at a park, church and faith-based activities, trips on public transportation, and shopping.

Seasonal Opportunities

Seasonal activities might happen frequently during part of the year and not at all during other parts of the year. Seasonal opportunities might include gardening, athletic events for siblings, vacation activities, playing in the snow, or watering the outdoor plants.