



ENHANCING CHILD PARTICIPATION IN CLASSROOMS WITH EARLY INTERVENTION (EI) STRATEGIES

HOW CAN CLASSROOM PROFESSIONALS USE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT LEARNING PRACTICES DURING EI VISITS?

Using natural learning environment practices in a childcare or classroom setting supports child participation in everyday activities and helps build the capacity of early care providers.

ROUTINES AND ACTIVITY SETTINGS:

- ✔ Be open to the EI provider helping you figure out ways to promote the child's participation in activities and routines.
- ✔ Consider all routines (handwashing, meals, cleanup) and activities (playground, centers) to promote participation.
- ✔ Focus on supporting the child in those routines using child interests and responsive strategies, while the EI provider supports you.



CHILD INTERESTS:

- ✔ Think about the child's interests and how they can be used to engage the child.
- ✔ Observe and consider the unique interests of the child, including classroom toys and materials, to engage and motivate the child's participation.
- ✔ Consider ways to expand opportunities for the child to pursue their interests in both current and new activities and routines in the classroom.



CAREGIVER RESPONSIVENESS:

- ✔ Share what you already know about how to support the child's participation.
- ✔ Be open to learning and trying new specialized strategies for helping the child participate.
- ✔ It's important to communicate openly with your EI provider to fine-tune strategies that suit you and your classroom.



TIP:

Talk with your EI provider in advance and outside of visits to share your expectations, feedback, and how they can best to support you.