



Natural Learning Environment

Practices in Childcare

Joint Planning With Early Intervention Providers

How can joint planning set the stage for effective early intervention in early care settings?

When receiving early intervention services in early care settings, joint planning is critical to ensure the early interventionist arrives when expected and needed, the focus of the visit is a naturally occurring interest-based routine or activity, and the caregivers are prepared to learn and practice strategies in the moment.

Routines and Activity Settings:

- Make a plan with the EI provider to use strategies that are easily incorporated into existing routines and interactions.
- Consider what routine would be helpful to target as the focus of the next visit and schedule for when that activity typically happens.
- Make sure to schedule visits at different times and days to get support throughout your routines and activities.

Child Interests:

- Remember to incorporate child interests into the plans you make with the EI provider.
- Observe how using child interests engages or supports the child's learning during daily activities.
- Consider how to use child interests to nurture social interactions.

Caregiver Responsiveness:

- Develop a plan for how you will support the child's participation in a specific activity between visits.
- Share with the EI provider which responsive strategies you think are most effective to support the child and why.
- Coordinate with the EI provider about how you both will communicate with the family about what occurred at EI visits and how it is working.

Tip: Consider alternative ways to joint plan with the EI provider (phone call during nap time, email) to follow-up if needed.