



What Early Intervention Is and Is NOT: A Review of the Evidence

Evidence-Based early intervention is the set of evidence-based cross-disciplinary providers use to build the capacity of families to support their child's well-being and development.

What Early Intervention IS

1. Supporting parents with their priorities for their family and child.
2. Making meaningful, family-driven differences in their real-life activities.
3. Visiting families during the activities during which they want support.
4. Focusing on enhancing parent-child interactions during family routines.
5. Using your professional knowledge to augment families' existing strengths.
6. Supporting families with finding and accessing resources.
7. Using children's interests and preferences to sustain their participation in a family routine.
8. Helping families recognize and overcome underlying systemic issues that hinder families' success to services.

What Early Intervention is *NOT*

1. Providing services while parents take a break.
2. Working on skills or developmental deficits driven by evaluation results.
3. Lesson planning and buying toys to elicit specific behaviors.
4. Working with a child and telling parents how they can imitate the lesson later.
5. Comparing families' success or kids' skills to test scores or developmental norms.
6. Using the child's interest as a reward for engaging in a non-preferred activity.
7. Scheduling each visit for the same time and place.
8. Giving children books and toys.