

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Observation Rating Scale

Objectives:

After completing this observation, you will be able to

- Use a rating scale to record the degree to which a quality or trait is present
- Evaluate the use of rating scales

Observe a child in a preschool setting for a minimum of 30 minutes. As you observe the child, rate each category of social play as *always, usually, sometimes, or never*.

Name of Child \_\_\_\_\_ Alex \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ 5 \_\_\_\_\_

**Observation:**

Social Development	Rating			
	Always	Usually	Sometimes	Never
Spends time watching others play			Sometimes	
Plays with toys alone			Sometimes	
Plays with toys similar to others'		Usually		
Makes contact and plays with other children	Always			
Likes to be accepted by others	Always			
Gives and takes while interacting with peers	Always			
Engages with others in a positive manner	Always			
Interacts in harmony with peers		Usually		
Sees things from another child's point of view		Usually		
Shares possessions and toys with peers		Usually		
Respects others' rights	Always			
Strives for independence	Always			
Expresses anger verbally rather than physically		Usually		
Resolves play conflicts in a positive manner	Always			

**Review:**

1. Use the information from the rating scale to explain and describe the child's social development. *(Some questions to consider may be: How does this child relate with other children? Does he/she seek out other children? Does he/she seek only specific children? Does he/she avoid the other children or specific children? Does he/she wait until someone seeks him/her out? How does he/she respond to another child's invitation to play? Does he/she spend a lot of time watching other children? Is he/she generally a leader or a follower?)*
  - Alex relates with other children every day in different ways such as playing games, having a conversation about a shared interest with his peers, asks if others are okay, etc. Alex seeks out half his class every day to play outside or participate in games. His most go to friends were Olivia and Olivia, Spiderman (Luke), Griffin, Brenden, and Mimi. Not only did Alex seek out specific children a lot, but would just go up and start playing with almost every child in the class. He welcomes all invitations to play if he doesn't ask first! He sometimes waits for others to seek him, but most of the time it is mutual. I think Alex in some ways is a leader, but more so a follower because he is at that age where if he sees kids having fun hell want to join or copy what they are doing which is normal for his age.
2. What did you learn about social development by observing this child?
  - Through my observations I have learned that while children seek for their own individuality they also seek for other fulfillments in social group settings too. For example, Alex will play trains or color alone and feels proud when he has built or created something, but also seeks for the same positive and social aspect of playing with other children
3. What are the advantages and disadvantages you see in the use of rating scales?
  - Some advantages of the rating scale is it is a clear, straight forward chart that you can quickly look at to see the developmental achievements of the child. However, a disadvantage of the rating scale could be it can make a child appear like they are falling behind if they do not fall in the Always/Usually category and does not account for certain age groups since it is just a general set of questions for developing children.
4. Describe a situation where you would use a rating scale for assessment and explain why.

- A situation I would use the rating scale is to see if a child is socially developing like they should be. I would observe my little jag in a group setting whether he seeks out others or waits to be sought out, etc. Overall, I would use the chart as a check in that my little jag is playing nicely with others.
5. Describe a situation when you would *not* use a rating scale as a form of assessment and explain why.
- A situation I would not use the scale would be for an independent activity that tests motor skills. I wouldn't use the rating scale because it would not help me see his individual development and asks specific questions for social or group settings