

Questions for Home Visits

1. Brothers? Sisters? Other people who live with the child? Pets?
2. Typical day for the child?
3. What sports does she/he like to do?
4. What other activities does she/he like to do?
5. Does your child watch t.v.? How much time each day? What about other screen activities (computer, Game Boy, Nintendo, etc.)? {Share American Academy of Pediatrics recommendations.}
6. Bedtime routine?
7. How does she/he show being upset?
8. How does she/he calm down?
9. What are some the ways she/he shows she/he is angry? What causes her/him to become angry? Upset?
10. What happens with _____ when there is a conflict?
11. How does she/he resolve conflict?
12. Play well on own?
13. How deal with change?
14. Please inform teachers about any changes. For example: didn't sleep well, important adult in child's life very sick; new baby; visitors, etc.

Adapted from Brown/Fox Point Early Childhood Education Program (Providence, RI) materials by Laura Mason Zeisler, 2000

15. What does your family celebrate? Are there celebrations that your family does not want your child experiencing?
16. Share information re: curricula - e.g. Grain Group activity; leaf collection; Harvest festivals; New Year's celebrations; songs and games from family's own childhood experiences
17. Goals for your class – for example: being member of a community; problem solving and conflict resolution; communication skills; self-concept and self-esteem; literacy (Emphasize importance of reading 20 minutes with child 7 days a week.) and math skill development; **nurture a love of learning** Children are born ready to learn.); inquiring mind - observe, explore, hypothesize, experiment, conclude etc.; self-control; self-regulation
18. Ideas of materials to share with families: NAEYC pamphlets {*Toys: Tools for Learning*; *A Good Kindergarten for Your Child*; and *Raising a Reader, Raising a Writer: How parents can help*}, selected list of children's book authors; healthy snack handout
19. Home-school partnership - importance of communication. Talk to us so we can clarify, problem solve, learn from family etc. We (the family and school) are partners. The parents/guardians are the child's most important and powerful teachers. We are a team to work together in helping the child.
20. Books go home for week (or other way) or book bag project - (For example, giving families a task such as: discussing their favorite parts of the story; main ideas; beginning, middle and end of story; favorite authors and illustrators; different genres ("What is a genre?" is the first step with families.); response to story, etc.)

Homework: read to child at least **20 minutes per day.**

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