

Monitoring and assessing children's learning

Transcript of video

This video is available from www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/32498.html

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Assessment in monitoring children's progress is one of the real challenges in early childhood because we have to focus on each and every child. It is individualised, and so it can be time consuming.

I think what's really important with that is taking observations in as short form as can be taken, but effectively, at the end of any observation that's taken, deciding the 'so what?' about that rather than simply describing it and putting it in a portfolio. It's about what you do with that observation to plan and extend the child's learning and thinking.

So it's not about the volume of documentation that you have. It's about summarising and coming to a learning plan that pushes the child forward with a nudge.

It's not aggressive in any way, but it is taking a high expectation, assuming every child will do well and can do much more and be much deeper about what they think and where their interests lie if that switch is just turned on a little more. And that's what the early educators' documentation work is about: finding the next step.