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

**Observation**

**Participation Chart**

Objectives:

After completing this observation, you will be able to

* Use a participation chart to assess activity preferences during self-selected play
* Evaluate children’s activity preferences during self-selected play

Observe a small group of children in a preschool setting for a minimum of 30 minutes. Record their participation in specific play areas/centers. Then evaluate and summarize their preferences.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Child’s Name** | **Age** |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

Write the names of the children in the spaces provided. Insert the time of your observation in the left-hand column. Review the codes listed under the chart. For each 10-minute segment, record the activity or activities in which each child participated. For example, if a child only played with block building for the first 10-minute segment, record a *b* in the space provided. If the child moved from block building to dramatic play during that time period, both a *b* and *dp* need to be recorded in the space.

**Observation:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Activity Preferences During Self-Selected Play** | | | | | | |
| **Children’s Names** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \_\_:00 - \_\_:10 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \_\_:10 - \_\_:20 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \_\_:20 - \_\_:30 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \_\_:30 - \_\_:40 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \_\_:40 - \_\_:50 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \_\_:50 - \_\_:00 |  |  |  |  |  |  |

a=art, b=blockbuilding, c=computers, dp=dramatic play, l=language, m=math/manipulatives, r=reading/listening, s=science/sensory

**Review:**

1. Which child remained engaged in one activity for the longest period of time? Explain.
2. Which child moved most frequently from activity to activity?
3. Which activities did the children engage in the most? Explain.
4. Which activities did the children engage in the least? Explain.
5. How could you use the information gained from this assessment?