

## OBSERVATIONS

There are many reasons to observe children:

1. To gain a deeper understanding of children, in general; how they think and feel, how they can be expected to grow and behave.
2. To get to know a specific child better; the child's needs, interests, skills, problems, and feelings.
3. To assess where a child is developmentally and make comparisons with other children that same age.
4. To identify special needs, problems, or interests children may have.
5. To assess teaching skills. A teacher can analyze the setup of the room, the schedule of activities, the observation of when learning problems take place, etc.
6. To make a conscious effort to know all the children in a group equally well. Some children stand out in a group due to a talent or behavior problem. Others tend to get lost in the crowd by blending in too well. A teacher must know all the children in the group and try to meet all of their needs.