

The why and how of adding observations; a guide for families using Tapestry at home

Things to remember

- Your child is unique
- You know your child best
- Children learn through play – doing, being, living – everything, however ordinary, is a learning moment for them
- You are their first educator: from birth they have been learning from you - but you don't have to be their teacher. Be a family first.
- Involve your child in everyday life at home and they will be learning

How to add an observation to your child's Tapestry Learning Journal

Please watch this video from the Tapestry Team to help you add an observation:

[Click Here](#)

<https://bit.ly/AddingObs>

Reasons to add observations to your child's learning journey

Adding observations to your child's learning journey:

- Helps us stay connected with your child
- Shows us what your child is interested in now
- Shows us how they are learning and developing
- Keeps their learning journey going – they will continue to learn, and your photos/notes will continue to tell their learning story
- Helps us plan next steps for your child so that they can build on their experiences.

What you can tell us in your observation

There is no right or wrong way to do this. You can pick and choose from this list or you can just add a photo and a couple of words. As often or as little as you like. Remember being there with your child is the most important thing.

- What did they do?
- What did they use? (e.g. objects, toys, clothes)
- Did they do this on their own or with another family member?
- Did they choose or did you suggest?
- How did they communicate with you? (e.g. facial expressions, sounds, talk with words, talk in sentences – you can include what they said if you like).
- Did they show you something new? (e.g. talking their first steps, saying a new word, forming a letter for the first time)

What is an 'observation'?

The dictionary definition of 'to observe' is 'to notice' and 'to learn something about the person/thing you are observing'. This is why we make observations in Early Years settings – to notice and to learn more about your child. They can tell us:

- What your child is interested in
- How they manage their feelings
- How they learn
- Where they are in their stage of development
- How we can plan for their next steps
- We will be able to notice and learn things about your child from the pictures and notes you add to your child's learning journey too.



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