

Child Development

Child Case Study

9. Write an in-depth Case Study of one of the children you observed in the previous assignment, a child between the ages of **birth and 12 years old**

Explicit details for this case study are available online in eCollege: DocSharing: **CaseStudy.pdf.**

Aligns with Student Learning Outcomes: D

Your Case Study must respond directly to each of the following steps and questions:

Step One: Provide a brief context for the child you are studying and the setting

1. *Why did you select this child for your case study?*

Be sure to provide a basic context for selecting this child and other important factors about your classroom setting, as well as describing the child's unique characteristics and needs. What developmental theory(ies) provides a framework for working with this child?

Step Two: Involve the Child's Family

2. *How did you establish a relationship with the child's family?*

What approaches did you take to better understand the child's family, their community, values and culture? If your initial approaches were not successful, discuss how you modified your efforts to involve the family in meeting their child's needs.

3. *What did you learn about the child's family and community and how did you learn it?*

Discuss what you learned about the family and community factors that might impact the child's development and learning? What did you learn from the family? What did you learn from other sources? Were you informed by any family theory or research?

4. *What insights into the child's developmental and learning needs did you gain from your relationship with the child's family; and, the immediate and long-term developmental goals the family has for the child?*

Were you able to provide information about community or school resources that might be helpful to the family or child?

Step Three: Identify the Child's Developmental Needs

5. *What informal and formal observation, documentation, and assessment strategies and tools did you use in order to better understand the child's development and learning needs?*

In your response to this question, make sure that you explain why you selected each observation, documentation, and assessment approach that you used, and why you elected not to use other tools or approaches.

6. *What did you learn about the child's developmental and learning needs?*

Based on your use of informal and formal observation, documentation, and assessment approaches, describe the child's development related to each of these five domains: physical, social, emotional, cognitive, and language development.

Step Four: Make a Plan for Action

7. What are two immediate developmental goals that make sense for this child?

Based on your study of the child and your relationship with the child's family, identify and present a rationale for two of the child's most immediate developmental needs that can be supported in the early childhood program setting.

8. What actions will you take to begin to promote positive development and challenge the child to gain new competencies in each of the two areas that you have identified?

Describe immediate and long-term actions you will take to help the child meet each of the two goals you have selected. In your response to this question, make sure that you explain what standards, best-practices, and developmental research and principles you are using as a basis for your actions. What research supports the importance of creating assessment partnerships?

Adapted from Developmental Child Case Study: Example Assessment, Rubrics, and Data Tables for NAEYC

John Johnston, Heather Biggar Tomlinson, & Susan Harlan, 2007 3