**Credential AREA:Infant-Toddler Credential (Level 6)****TOPIC: HGD-HSW-IRE Custom Assessment**

**Family/ Practitioner Observation and Developmental Planning**

**I. Assessment Competency & Standards Alignment**

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| **Gateways Competencies Assessed** | **Competency Alignment by citation** | |
| **Zero to Three (2016)** |
| **ITC HGD8:**  Supports families and practitioners in identifying biological and environmental risk and resilience factors that may impact healthy infant/toddler development, learning, mental health, and well-being. | ------- |
| **ITC HSW6:**  Identifies environmental challenges and advances strategies, in partnership with families, to support positive outcomes related to the health, safety, and well-being of infants/toddlers within their familial and community environment. | ------- |
| **ITC HSW7:**  Utilizes communication and collaboration skills to partner with and support families and practitioners in understanding and applying evidence-based practices that promote infant/toddler health, safety, and well-being. | ------- |
| **ITC IRE8:**  Develops and implements, in partnership with families, unique relationship building strategies--embedded within daily interactions--that are designed to develop the confidence and capabilities of families and practitioners in their capacity to nurture the development, learning, and well-being of infants/toddlers. | ------- |

**II. Assessment Task Description/ Directions**

**Note**: This assessment requires that you work with both a practitioner in an early childhood setting and a family (inclusive of an infant/toddler). Partner with the practitioner to identify a family with whom the practitioner regularly works.

In this assessment, you will be working with a practitioner and the family of a young child, ages birth to 3. The goal of the assessment is to assess the environmental contexts of a child and to use environmental assessment data to collaboratively identify goals and strategies which promote/ support the child’s brain development, mental health, and well-being within the contexts of their environments.

The components of your assessment include:

1. developing a statement in which you identify and describe:

* evidence/ best-practice-based communication strategies (e.g., those identified by Martin (2005) and McWilliam (2010)),
* strategies for promoting children’s development, including developmental expectations which are age-typical for the child/ family with whom you will be collaborating,
* environmental assessment tools to be used in conducting your assessment of the practitioner and family environments (to be determined and agreed upon in collaboration with the instructor),

1. conducting an assessment in the context of the practitioner/ child observation,
2. conducting an environmental assessment in the context of a family/ child observation,
3. developing analyses of the assessment data from each of the two settings, and
4. using data collected from the two environmental assessments to develop a plan in collaboration with the practitioner and family that supports positive developmental outcomes. The assessments to be used in this assignment are to be discussed with and agreed upon by the instructor.

**Part 1: Assessment Preparation**

Before conducting your interviews and environmental assessment, provide an overview of each of the following:

* Communication, collaboration, and relationship-building strategies you will use with the practitioner and family to support the partnership sand the ability to understand and apply evidence-based practices
* The environmental assessment you will be utilizing and your rationale for this selection, including research regarding the instrument’s validity, reliability, and cultural sensitivity
* Evidence-based strategies that are typically beneficial in supporting/ promoting children’s development and which are contextually/ culturally sensitive
* Anticipated infant/ toddler competencies based on the age of the child being observed

**Part 2: Practitioner Observation**

**Technology Option:**

- Electronic forms/data collection

Throughout your observations, you are expected to utilize communication, collaboration, and relationship-building strategies identified in Part 1 of this assessment.In the context of the early childhood setting in which your identified practitioner is employed, explain the purposes of the environmental assessment that you are to conduct as a part this assessment’s requirements, including the role of the environment in children’s overall development. Explain to the practitioner that you will be observing his/ her interactions with a young child, followed by a mutual observation of the same young child with their family. In collaboration with the practitioner, choose a child/ family with whom you will work collaboratively. Conduct the practitioner observation in accordance with requirements of the chosen and approved instrument.

**Part 3: Practitioner Assessment Analysis**

Based on the data gathered during the practitioner observation, develop, in partnership with the practitioner, an overview of biological and environmental risk and resilience factors, interactive strengths, and capacities for growth/ change. Include in your analysis the potential impact of environmental factors on infant/ toddler brain development, mental health, safety, and well-being.

**Part 4: Family Observation**

Together with the practitioner, arrange a time to meet with the family and their child. Explain the purposes of the in-home observation, including exploring the role of environment in their child’s development. Throughout your observation, you and the practitioner are expected to utilize communication, collaboration, and relationship-building strategies identified in Part 1 of your Assessment. Conduct the assessment in accordance with requirements of the chosen and approved instrument.

**Part 5: Family Assessment Analysis**

Based on the data gathered during the observation and assessment, partner with the practitioner and family to develop an overview of the family’s strengths, cultural context and interactional patterns, biological and environmental risk and resilience factors, and capacities for growth/ change, including the potential impact of environmental factors on infant/ toddler brain development, mental health, safety, and well-being.

**Part 6: Child’s Developmental Plan**

Based on your analyses conducted in Parts 3 and 5 of this assessment, partner with the family and practitioner to identify and ***reach consensus*** on desired outcomes for the child, including evidenced-based strategies that will be used, and develop a plan that can be implemented in each of the child’s contexts that will address environmental factors that promote the child’s individual development. In addition to your overview of strategies, outline:

* Desired outcomes as related to infant/ toddler brain development, mental health, safety, and well-being
* Practitioner and family perspectives regarding areas of strength and opportunities for growth
* Contextual factors that may influence outcomes and how these can be addressed in the context of the program and/or family environment
* Evidence-based strategies you will use to support the practitioner’s and family’s understanding and apply identified opportunities for growth and designed outcomes in the areas of practitioner confidence and capability. The rationale for each of the strategies selected should be inclusive of unique practitioner/ program/ family context.

**III. Assessment Rubric**

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| **ITC Level 6 Family/ Practitioner Observation and Developmental Planning**  **Master Rubric** | | | | | |
| **Competency** | **Distinguished** | **Competent** | **Developing** | **Unsatisfactory** | **Unable to Assess** |
| **HGD8**: Supports families and practitioners in identifying biological and environmental risk and resilience factors that may impact healthy infant/toddler development, learning, mental health, and well-being  **Zero to Three**: N/A | Promotes family and practitioner competence in identifying emerging infant/toddler competencies  Cultivates partnerships with families and practitioners that promote and are responsive to current knowledge of healthy infant/toddler contexts andidentifies strategies designed to maximize resilience and minimize risk factors | Explains emerging infant/toddler competencies  Explains how biological and environmental factors optimize infant/toddler brain development and mental health  Utilizes respectful and responsive strategies to support family and practitioner knowledge of environmental risk and resilience factors that impact healthy infant/toddler development | Identifies characteristics of infant/toddler development and demonstrates understanding of the developmental trajectory  Identifies biological or environmental factors that support infant/toddler brain development and mental health  Describes strategies to promote and/or support family and practitioner knowledge of healthy infant/toddler development in context | Partially identifies characteristics of infant/toddler development  Provides a limited overview of biological and/or environmental factors supportive of infant/toddler brain development and mental health  Demonstrates an awareness of  strategies that support or undermine family and practitioner knowledge of healthy infant/toddler development in context |  |
| **Competency** | **Distinguished** | **Competent** | **Developing** | **Unsatisfactory** | **Unable to Assess** |
| **HSW6**: Identifies environmental challenges and advances strategies, in partnership with families, to support positive outcomes related to the health, safety, and well-being of infants/toddlers within their familial and community environment  **Zero to Three**: N/A | Supports families in conducting holistic environmental assessments to identify strengths and challenges in families and communities  Promotes practitioner implementation of respectful and responsive strategies, in partnership with families, to address environmental challenges and support positive outcomes | Conducts assessments to identify environmental (family and community) strengths and opportunities for growth  Utilizes respectful, responsive strategies to partner with families to identify environmental challenges and support positive outcomes | Conducts assessments to identify environmental strengths and challenges  Identifies strategies to address environmental challenges and promote positive outcomes | Conducts environmental assessments  Demonstrates an awareness of strategies to support health, safety, and well-being that lack consideration of family and community environment |  |
| **Competency** | **Distinguished** | **Competent** | **Developing** | **Unsatisfactory** | **Unable to Assess** |
| **HSW7**: Utilizes communication and collaboration skills to partner with and support families and practitioners in understanding and applying evidence-based practices that promote infant/toddler health, safety, and well-being  **Zero to Three**: N/A | Develops family and practitioner skills in identifying and applying evidence-based practices that are responsive to the health, safety, and well-being of infants and toddlers and their unique context | Demonstrates communication and collaboration skills that are responsiveness to contextual factors and the unique developmental trajectory of the family/practitioner  Partners with families and practitioners to understand and utilize evidence-based practices within their unique program and family contexts  Supports families and practitioners understanding and applying evidence-based practiceswhich promote infant/toddler health, safety, and well-being | Shares evidence-based practices with families and practitioners to promote infant/toddler health, safety, and well-being | Shares practices without attention to the underlying evidence base, family/practitioner development and/or unique contexts |  |
| **Competency** | **Distinguished** | **Competent** | **Developing** | **Unsatisfactory** | **Unable to Assess** |
| **IRE8**: Develops and implements, in partnership with families, unique relationship building strategies--embedded within daily interactions--that are designed to develop the confidence and capabilities of families and practitioners in their capacity to nurture the development, learning, and well-being of infants/toddlers  **Zero to Three**: N/A | Cultivates the development of practitioner competence in developing and implementing relationship building strategies--embedded within daily interactions--that nurture the development, learning, and well-being of infants/ toddlers and provides an evidence-based rationale for the actions | Observes the family members or practitioners(s) and infant/toddler together to understand their unique relationship, interactive strengths, and capacities for growth/change  Utilizes a variety of relationship-based strategies to identify and support, in partnership with families/practitioners, areas of strength and opportunities for growth | Develops and implements evidence-based program activities and plans that nurture develop, learning and well-being of infants and toddlers | Develops and implements strategies in the context of daily interactions that lack reflection or partially reflect the evidence-base |  |

Purple = Level 6

**IV. Data Collection & Analysis Tool**

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| **Competency & Standards Alignment** | | **Cumulative Assessment Data** | | | | |
| **Competency** | **Zero to Three (2016)** | **Distinguished** | **Proficient** | **Needs Improvement** | **Unsatisfactory** | **Unable to Assess** |
| **ITC HGD8:**  Supports families and practitioners in identifying biological and environmental risk and resilience factors that may impact healthy infant/toddler development, learning, mental health, and well-being. | ------- |  |  |  |  |  |
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