

**Observation Summary Paper: Cognitive Development**

*~2 pages, type written, double spaced, standard 1" margins*

In this paper, you will analyze the cognitive development of young children then write a paper with the following sections:

- Section 1: Infant/Toddler
- Section 2: Preschool Age Child
- Section 3: Young School Age Child
- Section 4: Conclusion

1) Infant/Toddler

a) Introduce the child setting by providing the following details:

i) Describe the child.

(1) How old is the child?

(2) Describe the child's physical appearance -- hair, skin, facial features, body type, and clothing.

ii) Describe the setting of the observation.

(1) Where did the observation take place?

(2) What furniture, materials, equipment were in the space?

(3) How was the furniture, materials and equipment positioned?

(4) Who was present?

b) Identify 2 to 3 cognitive skills and processes that you observed the child exhibit in the video. Clearly and objectively describe the behavior you observed and the skills and processes it demonstrates. (e.g. Jose caught then kicked a moving ball. This demonstrates his balance, ball play skills, and kicking abilities).

c) Identify 2 to 3 Cognitive Development indicators of what an educator might notice from the NY Early Learning Guidelines based on the behavior the child demonstrated. Indicate the subdomain(s) that each indicator falls. NY Early Learning Guidelines: <https://www.ccf.ny.gov/files/7315/9112/1561/ELG-2020.pdf>

2) Preschool Age Child

a) Introduce the child setting by providing the following details:

i) Describe the child.

(1) How old is the child?

(2) Describe the child's physical appearance -- hair, skin, facial features, body type, and clothing.

ii) Describe the setting of the observation.

(1) Where did the observation take place?

(2) What furniture, materials, equipment were in the space?

(3) How was the furniture, materials and equipment positioned?

(4) Who was present?

b) Identify 2 to 3 cognitive skills and processes that you observed the child exhibit in the video. Clearly and objectively describe the behavior you observed and the skills and processes it demonstrates (e.g. Jose caught then kicked a moving ball. This demonstrates his balance, ball play skills, and kicking abilities).

c) Identify 2 to 3 Cognitive Development indicators of what an educator might notice from the NY Early Learning Guidelines based on the behavior the child

demonstrated. Indicate the subdomain(s) that each indicator falls. NY Early Learning Guidelines: <https://www.ccf.ny.gov/files/7315/9112/1561/ELG-2020.pdf>

- 3) Young School Age Child
  - a) Introduce the child setting by providing the following details:
    - i) Describe the child.
      - (1) How old is the child?
      - (2) Describe the child's physical appearance -- hair, skin, facial features, body type, and clothing.
    - ii) Describe the setting of the observation.
      - (1) Where did the observation take place?
      - (2) What furniture, materials, equipment were in the space?
      - (3) How was the furniture, materials and equipment positioned?
      - (4) Who was present?
  - b) Identify 2 to 3 cognitive skills and processes that you observed the child exhibit in the video. Clearly and objectively describe the behavior you observed and the skills and processes it demonstrates. (e.g. Jose caught then kicked a moving ball. This demonstrates his balance, ball play skills, and kicking abilities).
  - c) Identify 2 to 3 Cognitive Development indicators of what an educator might notice from the NY Early Learning Guidelines based on the behavior the child demonstrated. Indicate the subdomain(s) that each indicator falls. NY Early Learning Guidelines: <https://www.ccf.ny.gov/files/7315/9112/1561/ELG-2020.pdf>
- 4) Conclusion
  - a) Answer the following questions in the final paragraph
    - i) What new insights do you have about young children and/or cognitive development from the process of observing young children and analyzing their cognitive development?
    - ii) What was the most interesting aspect of this assignment for you? Why?

#### Cognitive Skills & Processes

- Learning Schemes
- Cause & Effect
- Use of tools
- Object Permanence
- Understanding Space/Spatial Relationships
- Imitation
- Symbolic play
- Classification
- Numeracy
  - Want more
  - Quantity (all gone, a lot)
  - Say numbers from memory
  - Count objects
  - Add objects
  - Subtract objects
  - Calculate mentally
- Literacy

- Reading
- Writing
- Understanding Routines
- Creativity
- Problem Solving
- Reflecting
- Memory
- Reasoning
- Perception
- Knowledge
  - Use of objects
  - Information
  - Skills

The Self-Assessment Checklist below describes how your Observation Summary Paper: Cognitive Development will be assessed.

**Self-Assessment Checklist**, if you can answer ‘yes’ to all questions below, you will earn 1 point:

TASK	DOES YOUR PAPER:	Y/N
CHILD DESCRIPTIONS	Include a thorough, clear, graphic description of the 3 settings & children in each age group so that the reader can picture the child & environment?	
SKILLS & PROCESSES	Include 2+ cognitive skills & process for each child, with clear, detailed, objective descriptions of the behavior that indicated the skill/process?	
NY ELG INDICATORS	Include 2+ Cognitive Development NY ELG indicators of what an educator might see that align with observation, & child’s age?	
CONCLUSION	Thoughtfully & thoroughly answer the questions?	
CLARITY	Present as clear, organized, coherent, full of details/examples, with evidence of proofreading?	