

## Early Years Outcomes and Development Matters

**Early Years Outcomes** is Ofsted's guidance document of choice for tracking children's learning. It tells you what a child might be doing and saying at different ages so you can assess what the child can / cannot do and say when you have written their observations and keep a close eye on the progress they are making.

It is the Ofsted inspector's document of choice as detailed here –

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/early-years-november-2013>.

You can download and print a copy of Early Years Outcomes for every child in your provision here -

[http://www.foundationyears.org.uk/files/2012/03/Early\\_Years\\_Outcomes.pdf](http://www.foundationyears.org.uk/files/2012/03/Early_Years_Outcomes.pdf).

There are some different layouts of Early Years Outcomes here –

<http://www.freewebs.com/sarahnev707/earlyyearsoutcomes.htm>.

**Development Matters** is a guidance document to help you support children's learning. It contains information about –

- Children's learning characteristics – which tell you how the child learns;
- Positive relationships – which gives ideas for enhancing relationships with children, families, other settings and people who work with the child;
- Enabling environments – which gives ideas for how you can change your resources, equipment, outings, space etc to better support children's learning.

Note that some of the outcomes (unique child) have been changed in Early Years Outcomes.

### Using Early Years Outcomes (EYO) and Development Matters (DM)

1. You write your observation...
2. You use EYO to note the progress the child is making...
3. You use DM alongside your experience, knowledge of each child and information shared by parents and other settings to help you write planning...

So...

Observation	EYO = assessment	DM = planning
The child is doing / saying...	EYO tells me that the child is learning about PSED / Physical / Literacy etc... EYO says that the child's age / stage of learning is...	DM (enabling environments) suggests that the child might enjoy... or DM (positive relationships) suggests that... DM tells me that the child's learning characteristics are ... which I can use in their planning by...

This helps you to track a child's progress – it tells you whether the child is or is not making appropriate progress. Make sure you have observations that cover all areas of learning – not every day or every week but you do need an overview over, say, a month or 2 so you can quickly spot gaps in the child's learning.