Group planning and evaluations

This is how I write and print my monthly group planning for the older children - mostly over 3s and school age.

You are wasting time doing it for little ones - they won't be interested.

As you can see, I don't write a huge amount. A lot of it is in my head - and some of it is in my medium term planning files.

First of all, I think through some activity ideas... then I sit with the children and suggest - 'I thought we might do xx this week? What do you think?'

It's taken them a few months to get to this stage - to start with they looked at me blankly - now they are full of ideas and really animated about what they would like to do!

I read them a book or show them something linked to the plan eg.

- Independence Day we looked at an American flag together and tried to count the stars
- Tanabata carries on nicely from Independence Day because it's about stars
- Teddy bears picnic teddy came to visit during afternoon snack and said he would like the children to organise him a picnic

I write down their ideas, give them some suggestions of my own (to make sure we are covering all 7 areas of learning) and let them pretty much run with it. I change things to include all the children.

I tend to write it up after in my play plan 'what has Sarah planned for the children?' section.

I also take photos for our album - when I remember!

PD -

UW -

A & D -

Week number	Activity ideas to focus on
Week 1 -	Main learning intention -
	Main EYFS links -
Week 2 -	Main learning intention -
	Main EYFS links -
Week 3 -	Main learning intention -
	Main EYFS links -
Week 4 -	Main learning intention -
	Main EYFS links -
Week 5 -	Main learning intention -
	Main EYFS links -

Focussed reflections of our month

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Thoughts about our planned activities did our	Popular child-led play this month what did the
plans work well? Were the learning intentions met?	children enjoy playing with / doing this month?
Ideas for extending learning experiences how	Feedback from the children what do the
can children's learning experiences be enhanced?	children think went well / not so well this month?
Parent comments what do parents think about	Impact on holistic L & D think about positive
our planning this month?	relationships and enabling environments