

# Why do we observe children?



Observations that are carried out in a sensitive way are a great tool for childcare practitioners. They allow us to:

Discover what interests a child and where they enjoy playing and exploring

See how children interact with other children and adults

See how children manage their feelings

Start to understand the learning styles of individual children – ie schemas

Start to see the stage of development the child is at

Enable us to follow the sequence of development

See if children are demonstrating the characteristics of effective learning

Understand and monitor specific issues such as behaviour or learning delay

