

## Child Development 251- Observational Techniques

### Ethics Assessment

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1. According to the NAEYC's Code of Ethical Conduct, which principle takes precedence over all others when one is working with children and their families?

“We shall not harm children. We shall not participate in practices that are emotionally damaging, physically harmful, disrespectful, degrading, dangerous, exploitative, or intimidating to children.” (1)

2. List one way in which professionals working with children have an ethical responsibility to families.

Everything should be kept confidential for the privacy of the family and a person shouldn't tell other people confidential information to protect the child.

3. Briefly describe one way in which a person working as a member of a team in a child care program can respect their colleagues' rights to an ethical and professional relationship.

When a person has a problem with a colleague, that person should let the colleague know of their concern out of respect and solve the problem that way.

4. Cite one way in which those working with children and their families have an ethical responsibility to the community and society in which they reside.

“To work through education, research, and advocacy toward an environmentally safe world in which all children receive health care, food, and shelter; are nurtured; and live free from violence in their home and their communities” (7).

5. The parent of a child you have been observing approaches you in the observation booth and begins to question you about the notes you have recorded. You explain that you are a beginning observation student and that the information you have jotted down is confidential. The parent forcefully states that he/she has a right to know what you have recorded about his/her child. Describe what you will do?

I would tell the parent that I'm sorry, but I have to keep everything confidential and if he/she has any questions or concerns then he/she should go talk to the child's teacher.

6. A friend of yours becomes fascinated with your accounts of some fairly unusual behavior displayed by one of the children in the group you observe. She asks you about the child's background and family life, which was discussed during class the day before. How will you respond?

I would say I'm not able to disclose that kind of information and I have to keep everything confidential for the child's privacy and the privacy of the family.

7. While observing a child in the dramatic play area, you notice a sharp knife in the child-sized dish drainer. The child you are observing in the area begins to move closer and closer to the sink area. The teachers are nowhere in sight. It appears that you are the only person who has observed the knife and there are no other observation students in the booth. What will you do?

I would distract the child with another toy while I take the knife away because the child's safety is above all more important. I would let the teacher know what happened and give her the knife.