

## **CREATIVE OBSERVATION**

Classroom \_\_\_\_\_ Observer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### **INTEGRATING STRATEGIES FOR FOSTERING CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT**

#### **Unconditional acceptance of each child**

\_\_\_\_\_ The staff members are warm and affectionate with the children.  
Example:

\_\_\_\_\_ The staff members interact with each child in a way that demonstrates acceptance of their ideas, actions, and projects. Example:

\_\_\_\_\_ The staff member's comments and responses show awareness of building confidence and a positive self-concept in children. Example:

#### **Flexible scheduling of time**

\_\_\_\_\_ There is at least 45 minutes for free play and free exploration of materials.  
Example:

\_\_\_\_\_ There is time for children to finish or space to store projects until time to complete them.  
Example:

\_\_\_\_\_ If an unexpected event occurs, the teacher capitalizes on it for the interest of the children.  
Example:

#### **Providing materials for children to rearrange or change the environment**

\_\_\_\_\_ There is supply of items in the dramatic play area for children to rearrange.  
Example:

\_\_\_\_\_ There is an ample supply of blocks and props for children to construct with.  
Example:

\_\_\_\_\_ There is an ample supply of art related materials (ie: play dough, marker, natural collage materials, glue/paste). Example:

\_\_\_\_\_ There is a focus on natural/gathered materials with which children can create.

Example:

\_\_\_\_\_ There are woodworking related materials and tools. There is evidence that the woodworking table is being frequently used. Example:

\_\_\_\_\_ There is an ample supply of gender appropriate clothing and accessories for both boys and girls

Example:

\_\_\_\_\_ Dramatic Play wear needs to be clean, in good repair and stored appropriately.

Example:

### **Providing items for children's independent creativity**

\_\_\_\_\_ There is an ample supply of music/movement related supplies, including: musical instruments, scarves, streamers which are readily available to children on a regular basis. Example:

\_\_\_\_\_ There are supplies to enable experimentation and scientific inquiry.

Example:

\_\_\_\_\_ There is an ample supply of storytelling props, such as puppets, felt board and books which portray fantasies and challenges. Example:

### **Arrangement of space**

\_\_\_\_\_ There is a place for children to move freely and dance.

Example:

\_\_\_\_\_ The space that children choose art materials from is clean, well organized and inviting.

Example:

### **Value differences**

\_\_\_\_\_ The staff members invite parents of children of various cultures to come to the classroom and teach a song, a dance, or a game, or cook something with the children.

Example:

\_\_\_\_\_ There are dolls, dress-up clothes, recordings, pictures, and toys that represent the cultural makeup of

the classroom. Example:

**Focus on process and not Product**

\_\_\_\_\_ The artwork on the walls indicates that the children have freedom to create.  
Example:

\_\_\_\_\_ In the week's plan there is sufficient time allotted for open-ended exploration.  
Example:

\_\_\_\_\_ If the activity is teacher structured, what is said to the child who wishes to use materials in a different way? Example:

**Reward for children being creative**

\_\_\_\_\_ The staff members show enthusiasm for children's new ideas.  
Example:

\_\_\_\_\_ The staff members use the child's ideas and incorporate it into teaching.  
Example:

\_\_\_\_\_ Staff members give specific praise and recognition in front of the child's peers.  
Example:

\_\_\_\_\_ When a child's idea is not one that can be incorporated into the activity, the teacher still shows appreciation to the child. Example:

General Comments:

After completing this observation do you feel that the classroom staff demonstrates an overall commitment to inspire and nurture children's creativity? Explain