THE NATIONAL CENTER ON
Quality Teaching and Learning

LEARNING ACTIVITY
COLLECTING AND USING ANECDOTAL RECORDS

CHANGING TEACHING STRATEGIES

Activity overview:

In this activity, you will read a short classroom scenario and decide how the teacher might adjust her teaching to better help the children progress.

Directions:

Read the following description of a classroom where sheets of labels are used to collect observations of children's behavior. Then discuss the question and record your answer.

Classroom scenario:

Gabriella teaches in a classroom of 20 children. She and her teaching assistant, Ellen, use sheets of labels to record their observations of children's behavior. They first write a different area of the Head Start Child Development and Early Learning Framework at the top of each column. Then they write the children's names on the labels. This ensures that they record an observation about each child, in each area of learning. Gabriella uses this method of collecting anecdotal records so that she can easily gather and keep track of information.

Later, Gabriella and Ellen review their observation labels in the area of gross motor skills. They notice that about a third of the children often drop balls during indoor games, and quickly lose interest in outdoor games that involve using balls. Gabriella and Ellen realize they need to adjust their teaching to help the children improve their coordination and ability to manipulate balls and other objects.

How might Gabriella and Ellen adjust their teaching to help the children develop this gross motor skill?

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For more information, contact us at: **NCQTL@UW.EDU** or **877-731-0764**

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