

TOOLS FOR SUPERVISORS IN CENTER-BASED CARE

GROUP SETTING OBSERVATIONS

Directions: Use this tool as a checklist to guide your observations of the staff’s ability to model and promote a STEAM mindset.

Share your observations with staff and discuss current strengths and areas for improvement. If there are many areas for improvement, prioritize recommendations. Keep the focus on making progress, even if it’s gradual.

Teacher: _____ Supervisor/Coach: _____ Date: _____

THE TEACHER SHOWS A STEAM MINDSET BY	OBSERVED EXAMPLES	RECOMMENDATIONS
<p>Encouraging Children’s Explorations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Providing children with diverse, open-ended materials ▪ Designing activities based on children’s interests and explorations ▪ Letting children take the lead and looking for answers to their questions together ▪ Bringing STEAM into the outdoor environment 		
<p>Modeling Curiosity and a Sense of Wonder</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Asking open-ended questions ▪ Encouraging children to ask questions and actively listening to what they are curious about ▪ Providing children with time to investigate and figure things out 		

THE TEACHER SHOWS A STEAM MINDSET BY	OBSERVED EXAMPLES	RECOMMENDATIONS
<p>Speaking STEAM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Providing meaningful opportunities for children to hear and use scientific language ▪ Using key vocabulary words (e.g., observe, predict, experiment) to encourage STEAM thinking and skills ▪ Describing objects or events a child is observing or exploring 		
<p>Modeling STEAM Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Commenting on what children are observing and asking them questions about their observations ▪ Asking children to make predictions about what they think will happen ▪ Asking children to compare and contrast objects and outcomes ▪ Documenting what children observed during their explorations in developmentally appropriate ways 		



THE TEACHER SHOWS A STEAM MINDSET BY	OBSERVED EXAMPLES	RECOMMENDATIONS
<p>Encouraging Critical Reflection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Inviting children to describe what they observed ▪ Allowing children to discuss what they learned from their explorations ▪ Asking children to think about what they want to investigate next based on their findings 		