

STAR observation - example

Name of child	Sam
Date and time	15 May 2018
Observed by (adult)	Adult X
Situation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What was the child playing with? • Were they on their own or with other adults/children? • Did they choose the experience themselves or was it adult directed? 	Sam was indoors at the snack table. He was sitting at the table with 5 other children waiting for his snack. An adult had led him in from the outdoor area and sat him down. The adult then went to collect the snack from the kitchen hatch. Although there were no toys on the table, there was a box of duplo next to the table.
Trigger <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What happened just before? 	Before snack-time Sam was happily playing in the water tray outside, pouring and filling, alongside one other child. When the children were asked to come inside for snack, he continued to play with the water, despite 3 further requests by adults A and C to come inside. Adult A then took him by the hand to the snack table and sat him down in the only available space.
Action <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What actually happened? 	As Adult A brought him in, Sam was shouting 'No!' He sat down. As adult A moved away from the table, Sam grabbed some duplo pieces and threw them. One piece hit another child who started to cry. Sam also began to cry.
Response <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How did the adult(s) respond? • How did the child respond? • How did the other children respond? 	Adult C said, "We don't throw at nursery - it makes us sad". Sam took himself off to the book corner and continued to cry. The other child was crying and being comforted by adult L. Sam would not come back to snack.

Reflection and possible next steps	<p>Reflection - Sam was playing happily before snack-time was announced. Was Sam aware it was snack time? Was he hungry at that time?</p> <p>Bringing him inside seemed to make things worse. Because Sam was last, he couldn't choose where he sat. Did this make a difference?</p> <p>Sam threw the duplo when there was no adult at the table and before snack arrived.</p> <p>Possible next Steps - Signal for all children that play is coming to an end. Use visual cue(photo/picture/object of reference to support Sam's understanding of what is happening next (alongside consistent language 'now/next') Adult to sit at table where Sam is. Provide opportunity to pour drinks (all children) as Sam is so interested in pouring at the moment! Snack to be on the tables as the children sit down so they don't have to wait. Talk to manager about reviewing whole snack-time procedure. (Some other children seem to find snack-time difficult e.g. some of the 2 year olds.)</p>
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