

### Why Observation?

#### *Why observation? How do teachers benefit?*

- 1. To build relationships with children:**
  - Get to know each child
  - Respect and appreciate children
  - Connect with children
  - Foster children's competence and success
  
- 2. To become a skilled observer:**
  - What do I want to find out?
  - When and where should I observe?
  - How do I record what I observe?
  - How do I organize the information I collect?
  
- 3. To observe and document effectively:**
  - Observe over time
  - Watch children in varied situations
  - Record what you observe
  - Organize the information you collect

Adapted from J.R. Jablon, A.L. Dombro, and M.L. Dichtelmiller, *The Power of Observation from Birth through Eight* (2<sup>nd</sup> Ed). Washington DC: Teaching Strategies & NAEYC, 2007, iii. © The authors. Used with permission.

Taken from *Young Children* March 2011, "Observation and Early Childhood Teaching: Evolving Fundamentals," by Stuart Reifel

[http://www.naeyc.org/files/yc/file/201103/OurProudHeritage\\_Online0311.pdf](http://www.naeyc.org/files/yc/file/201103/OurProudHeritage_Online0311.pdf)