



Tip Sheet: What is a Lesson Plan?

How is “Lesson Plan” defined?

Lesson Plan = A lesson plan is another word for “learning plan”. A lesson plan describes what is planned for an individual or a group of children for a day, week or month to help them learn.

How is a lesson plan related to curriculum?

A lesson plan helps you use your curriculum intentionally. A lesson plan “gets down to the nitty-gritty details” of the curriculum. It is a “plan” for how you will put your curriculum in to action in the short-term (the next day, week, or month). Your curriculum is your long-term plan for teaching children.

What should I think about including in my lesson plan?

- List the toys & materials that will be available during free play
- Describe how you will use routines to help children learn
- Describe the activities planned for small or large groups
- List the individual learning goals for each child
- Notes about how things went (the good and bad)

Is a lesson plan necessary for all ages of children?

Yes, even infants. Although, lesson plans will look different for each age group.

Questions to Think About

- Does my lesson plan reflect the children's interests? How do you know?
- Is my lesson plan based on play?
- Does my lesson plan give children a chance to be curious, solve problems, or make new discoveries?
- Does my lesson plan match each child's developmental level? How do you know?
- Does my lesson plan help each child grow new skills? How do you know?
- Is my lesson plan connected to what I learn through my daily assessments?
- Is it connected to my curriculum?



A Lesson Plan Is...

A Guide

A tool to help you plan and execute your goals for children's learning

Way to make sure you are serving the 'whole child'

Sign of professionalism

A Lesson Plan Is Not...

Perfect

One size-fits-all

A worksheet

Set in stone

A quick 'fix'

Only for 'preschool'

Want More? Check out additional resources at www.brightnd.org.