Conversation Analysis Self-study Form

Name

Date

Audio Record a Conversation

Record 5 to 7 minutes of a conversation with one young child about a daily-life topic of mutual interest. One child only. Avoid non-personal topics, such as imagination, pretend, a book, object or current activity. The purpose of this analysis is for you to check on your ability to have a Mutually Enriching Conversation connecting with important aspects of your lives. After listening to the playback of the conversation, select a section that you like the best and transcribe 40 statements, 20 of yours and 20 of the child's. With the printed transcript before you, answer these questions.

Context who, where, situation

Topic Analysis

Divide the printed transcript into topics by drawing a horizontal line between where one topic ends and the next topic begins. Circle the name of the speaker who made the topic change.

1. How many topic changes did you make?

2. How many topic changes did the child make?

3. What are the child's topics about?

4. If you shifted the topic, what were your reasons for doing that?

5. What effect did your topic shifts have on the child?

6. How might you have managed topics differently to make this conversation more mutually enriching?

7. If you want mutually enriching conversations in the future, what would you like to do about selecting topics to talk about and maintaining topic continuity?

Function Analysis

Code the function of each statement made by you and each statement made by the child using the Function Coding sheet and enter the numbers in the red boxes.

8.

		S	I	D	T	Q	Total
You	counts						
	percentage						100%
Child	counts						
	percentage						100%

9. What patterns do you see in this Function Coding data?

Total percentage of D T Q demanding statements:

10. What effect did your **Demanding** statements have?

11. What specific changes in the functions would you like to make in future conversations?

Responsiveness Analysis

Some of your statements may be responses to what the child said and some may not. For only those statements that were responses, attach the following codes in the margin.

para for paraphrase — *ppc* for parallel personal comment — *q/ct* for query on child's topic

Write the word "parrot" each time your response imitated the child's statement.

12. Enter the total number of each kind of response in these boxes.

Paraphrases

Parallel personal comments

Leading query on child's topic

Parrots

13. What seems to be the pattern in your responding?

14. What do you think of your ability to **paraphrase** effectively?

15. What do you think of your effectiveness in responding with **parallel personal comments**?

16. What do you think of your effectiveness in asking **leading query on the child's topic**?

17. In the future, what specific changes in responsiveness do you want to practice?

Leadership Analysis

18. Evaluate your ability to start up a conversation with children who do not readily talk to you.

19. What can you say about your ability to model taking the risk to share about yourself with children?

20. Evaluate your ability to provide closure that might lead to more mutually enriching conversations in the future with this child?

Conclusions

21. In summarizing what this analysis has shown you, what abilities and strengths do you have now that you can acknowledge and rely upon?

22. In summary, what specific things would you like to change?