

Helping Your Family Get the Most From Your Early Start Denver Model Session

PURPOSE

The purpose of ESDM is to help your child gain social, communication and play skills while supporting their overall development. Through observation and coaching you will learn strategies to help your child interact, communicate, and play with you and others as he/she learns to enjoy social exchanges.

FAMILY PARTICIPATION

There are three participation roles for you within the ESDM:

- To observe,
- To gain an understanding of the strategies, and
- To use the strategies within your everyday family activities.

READY TO LEARN

- Be sure your child is awake and ready to play.
- Discuss the plan for snacks and meals for your child with the provider.
- Create a play area that is free from distractions.

IMPORTANCE OF ATTENDANCE

- Consistent attendance of agreed upon sessions allows your child to benefit most from the intervention and maximizes your child's success.
- When possible, please provide sufficient notice of the need to cancel the ESDM session by calling your PSP. PSPs and ESM-Cs often travel long distances to work with you and your child.
- Refer to the CDS policy on attendance and missed visits.
- We appreciate the effort it takes to maintain regular and consistent visits.

ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES OF YOUR FAMILY'S PROVIDERS

Primary Service Provider (PSP)	Early Start Maine Consultant (ESM-C)
To help you with strategies to support your daily routine that will address both the IFSP outcomes and ESDM objectives,	To review the purpose of the ESDM, the time commitment, and the expectations,
To provide information about your child's skills,	To assess your child using the ESDM Checklist,
To work collaboratively with your child's IFSP team, (of which you are a member),	To develop ESDM objectives that will address your child's needs and your priorities,
To work directly with your child in meeting his/her ESDM objectives, and	To provide support and consultation to the PSP as he/she works with your child, and
To monitor the progress of your child, both on the IFSP outcomes and the ESDM objectives.	To monitor the progress of your child on the ESDM objectives and on the Autism Impact Measure (AIM).