



Power IS in the Numbers!

Using child assessment data to drive decisions regarding enhancing program quality and ensuring positive early learning outcomes

VACE
Virginia Assessment Center for Early Learning

Learning

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Presenters



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Audience Poll: Kahoot.it



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Objectives of this session:

Participants will:

- Learn about recent trends on data driven decision making.
- Better understand the importance of data.
- Learn new strategies for collecting data on children you serve.

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What do we mean by "collecting data?"



- Observe and collect facts and collect artifacts/child's work samples.
- A process that allows children an opportunity to be heard.

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Audience Poll: Kahoot.it

Ready to join?



Get your phone, tablet or laptop out now!

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Why Collect and Use Data

- Provide valuable information to families and educators about how children grow and develop – What the child has learned or can do already so as to help the child learn advanced skills.
- Helps programs understand children's learning and development and establish developmentally appropriate readiness goals for individual children. It helps identify special needs and guide instruction.
- To make some very important decisions related to your early childhood program.



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What does a recent study say?

Couple of key findings:

1. All participating preschools reported using ongoing, performance-based assessments of early learning outcomes.
2. Challenges in using child data to inform program-level decisions included the time and difficulty of combining multiple sources of data and the potential for multiple explanations for trends observed in the data.

Report of this study highlights that while participating preschools used data on early learning outcomes primarily to determine progress and growth for individual children, preschools may also benefit from examining scores for all children in a classroom or in a program.




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How programs can use data for accountability purposes




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To ensure what are programs designed for or funded to do?
Programs provide evidence of children's learning.




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Grades K-3

- Provide a snapshot of performance across subjects
- Measure year to year improvement
- Evaluate student growth across groups




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How programs can use data to identify needs



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Birth to Pre-K

Systematic observations help teachers become familiar with children's interests, needs, and strengths of all children in the class.

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Effective programs for infants, toddlers, & preschoolers

Systematic Observations of individual children

Assess developmental status

Create rich & varied learning opportunities

Plan and deliver learning opportunities & support

Provide intervention based on assessment data

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Grades K-3

- Formative Assessments
- Observation data
- Student data folders
- Ed Tech Example:
 - Student response units ie. Kahoot



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How programs can use data to celebrate success with families

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Birth to Pre-K

- Children's learning is enhanced when staff and families both form strong partnerships and share information effectively.
- Sharing info with families from ongoing child assessments help sustain the family-program partnership.
- Sharing different perspectives of this data is an essential step toward healthy learning environments for children.

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Grades K-3

- Establishing Goals
- Data Dialogs
- Incremental progress updates
- Supplement with anecdotes
- EdTech Example:
 - AudioBoom for fluency



"Before I write my name on the board, I'll need to know how you're planning to use that data."

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How programs can use data to foster community relations

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Birth to Pre-K

Availability of support services in the community to meet the needs and interests of the families.



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Grades K-3

School community celebrations:

- Attendance
- Read for the record
- Bookfair
- Ed Tech Example:
 - Bookadventure.com



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How programs can use data to enhance quality

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Birth to Pre-K



Excellent way to demonstrate commitment to quality!

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Grades K-3

- Use common assessments
- Identify skill gaps between classes
- Monitor pacing
- Ed Tech Example:
 - [Front Row Education](#)



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