



Moving forward with understanding and using COR for intentional planning

Overview

COR Advantage is a strengths-based assessment tool that measures children's progress from infancy through kindergarten in 9 domains: Approaches to Learning, Social and Emotional Development, Physical Development and Health, Language, Literacy and Communication, Mathematics, Creative Arts, Science and Technology, Social Studies, and (where appropriate) English Language Learning. COR Advantage is observationally based, where the data are captured by anecdotes collected by teachers in the course of the typical classroom day. Teachers write the anecdote, match it to an item (or items) in COR, and score it by comparing it to the example anecdotes provided. Once all 34-36 items are scored, a complete COR profile is created for each child as well as for the entire classroom. Teachers plan for the class by reviewing anecdotes and scoring data for information about children's interests and individual and classroom level strengths and needs.

COR Scoring Guidelines

1. Start by carefully reading your anecdote.
2. Select the appropriate COR Advantage category.
3. Choose the COR Advantage item.
4. Select the level (0-7) of development that best represents your anecdote. There is no exact match between ages and scoring levels. As a starting point, look at levels 0-3 when scoring infants and toddlers, levels 2-5 when scoring preschoolers, and levels 4-7 when scoring kindergartners.
5. You must have one clear, high-quality anecdote that supports the score. If you have any doubts about the score/developmental level, go back and collect additional anecdotes. If you are still in doubt, choose the lower level.
6. Remember that you may use your anecdote for more than one item.

Goals for moving forward

1. Ensure that each anecdote is objective, detailed but brief, factual and connected to learning.
2. Be sure that your anecdotes match specific examples in the COR Advantage Scoring Guide as you score each one.
3. Review the gaps in your data: where are the missing anecdotes? Reflect on what the missing anecdotes tell you about opportunities to add materials or interactions.
4. Look across all of your data for patterns within individual children or across a group of children. Look for areas of strength and opportunities for growth.
5. Use COR Advantage data to individualize and scaffold children's development, particularly at group times.
6. Complete COR at least twice yearly and use the Family Report for parent-teacher conferences.

Implementation plan

1. Explore helpful resources: [*Essentials of Active Learning in Preschool* pages 83-85 and pages 206-208; *COR Advantage Scoring Guide*; Kaymbu/COR Advantage Help Center has valuable webinars and articles: <https://help.kaymbu.com/hc/en-us>; HighScope website: <https://highscope.org/cor-advantage/>]
2. Practice writing anecdotes that are high-quality: objective, specific, and connected to learning. Ask co-teachers or colleagues to review your anecdotes to ensure they are clear and objective. Could someone read your note and act out the scenario?
3. Create a system for recording, organizing, and storing anecdotes.
4. After matching an anecdote to a specific item, add a score using the Scoring Guide. Periodically review all the scored items to see where there are gaps.
5. Use the completed COR scores to consider where to make changes in materials, daily routine or interaction strategies. Ask questions like, 'what would happen if we...' based on what you see in the anecdotes and the scores.
6. Review the completed COR Summary/Family Report as you prepare for family conferences. Highlight strengths, using these strengths to help build strategies to support areas where growth is needed.
7. Use your anecdotes and completed COR to individualize lesson planning.
8. For further information and resources please visit our website: <https://www.famconn.org/resources-1>

