

Child Interest and Preference Indicators

Carl J. Dunst Melinda Raab

A child's interests and preferences "tell us" what a child likes to do, prefers to do, and what captures and maintains a child's attention. This questionnaire includes a series of items that can be used to determine what "makes a child tick" and what sustains child engagement with people and objects. Answers to the questions can be gleaned from observations of a child in different activities or interviews with a child's parents or other persons familiar with a child. Findings can be used to engage a child in interest-based learning activities or to identify interesting consequences that can be used as reinforcers to increase desired child behavior.

Child _____ Age _____ Date _____

1. What people, objects, events, activities, and actions capture and **hold the child's attention?**

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

2. What people, objects, events, activities, and actions make the child **smile and laugh?**

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

3. What people, objects, events, activities, and actions does the child **enjoy?**

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

4. What people, objects, events, activities, and actions are the child's **favorite things to do?**

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

5. What people, objects, events, activities, and actions does the child **prefer to do?**

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

6. What does the child do to show he/she is **interested in** or is **attending to something?**

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____