DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

Your Partner For A Stronger Arizona

AzEIP Programmatic Meeting - Child Outcomes Summary

August 27, 2024

Purpose of Today's Presentation

To provide expanded clarification and guidance on the Child Outcomes Summary (COS) Process.

In Arizona the Child Outcomes Summary is also known as the Child Indicators Summary.

This presentation is based on the Child Outcomes Summary (COS) Process Quick Reference Guide created by the Center for IDEA Early Childhood Data Systems (DaSy) and the Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center (ECTA).

Child and Family Assessment Acronyms

Acronym	Meaning
AAC	Augmentative and Alternative Communication
APR	Annual Performance Report
AzEIP	Arizona Early Intervention Program
CFA	Child and Family Assessment
COS	Child Outcomes Summary
CQIC	Continuous Quality Improvement Coordinator
DaSy	Center for IDEA Early Childhood Data Systems
DDD	Division of Developmental Disabilities
ECTA	Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center
IDEA	Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
IFSP	Individualized Family Service Plan
I-TEAMS	Infant-Toddler Electronic Administration & Monitoring System
OSEP	Office of Special Education Programs
SC	Service Coordinator
SPA	Service Providing Agency

Attachments for Today's Meeting

- Child Indicators Summary GCI-1021C.pdf
- Decision Tree for Child Indicator Summary Rating Discussions GCI-1168A.pdf
- Definitions for Child Outcomes Summary (COS) Ratings
- Larimer County Age Anchoring Tool Outcome 1
- Larimer County Age Anchoring Tool Outcome 2
- Larimer County Age Anchoring Tool Outcome 3

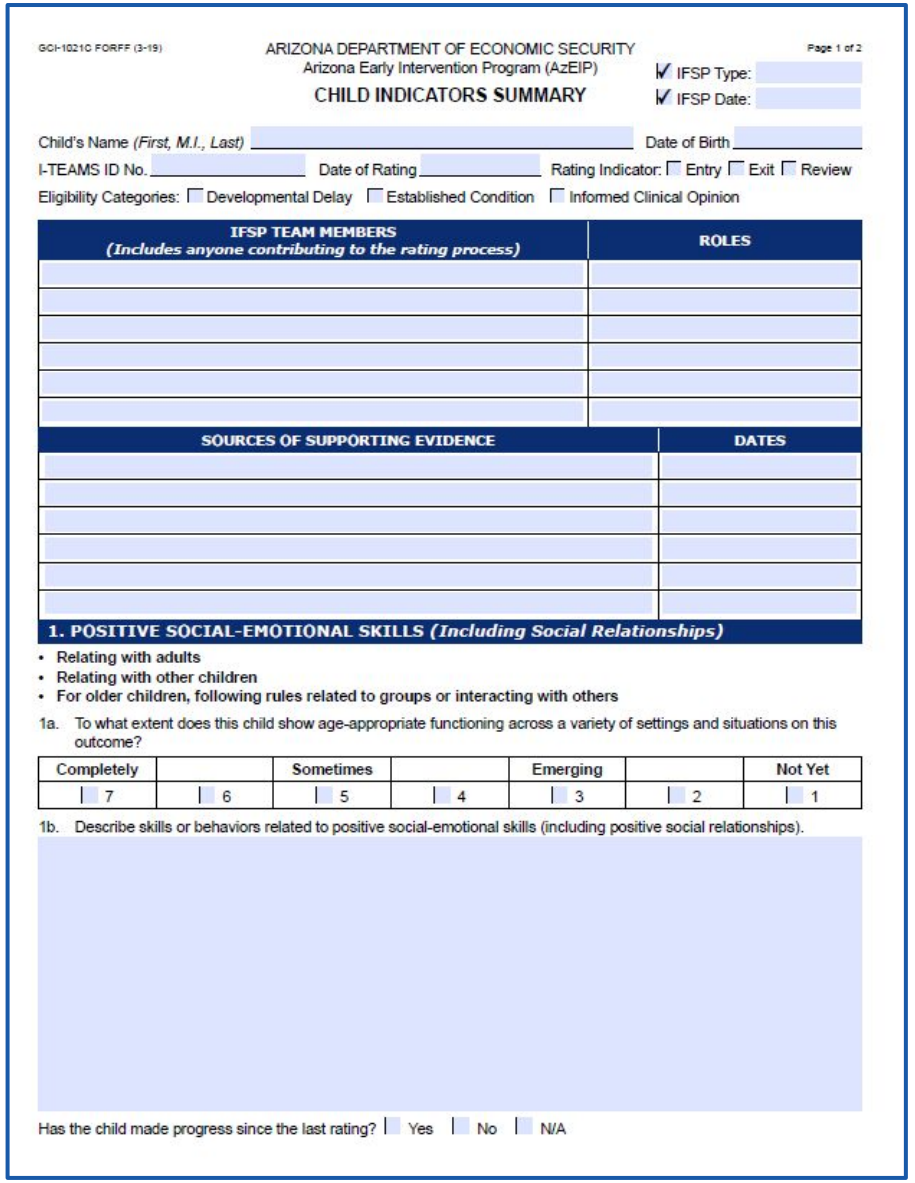
Ultimate Goals for Early Intervention

- To enable young children to be active and successful participants during the early childhood years and in the future in a variety of settings: in their homes with their families, in childcare, in preschool or school programs, and in the community
- To enable families to provide care for their child and have the resources they need to participate in their own desired family and community activities

What's the Difference between the Child Outcomes Summary (Child Indicator Summary) and IFSP Child Outcomes?

Child Outcomes Summary = Child Indicators Summary

- AzEIP uses “Child Indicators Summary” to refer to “Child Outcomes Summary”.
- For the remainder of this presentation we will refer to this process as the Child Outcomes Summary (COS) Process.
- The three child outcomes focus on what the child can do in his or her everyday routines and activities at home and in the community.
- The same Child Indicators are used for children receiving services under both Part B and Part C.
- AzEIP’s form is integrated into the IFSP as well as being available as its own document.



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Arizona Early Intervention Program (AzEIP)
CHILD INDICATORS SUMMARY

☑ IFSP Type:
☑ IFSP Date:

Child’s Name *(First, M.I., Last)* _____ Date of Birth _____

I-TEAMS ID No. _____ Date of Rating _____ Rating Indicator: ☐ Entry ☐ Exit ☐ Review

Eligibility Categories: ☐ Developmental Delay ☐ Established Condition ☐ Informed Clinical Opinion

IFSP TEAM MEMBERS *(Includes anyone contributing to the rating process)*	ROLES

SOURCES OF SUPPORTING EVIDENCE	DATES

1. POSITIVE SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL SKILLS *(Including Social Relationships)*

- Relating with adults
- Relating with other children
- For older children, following rules related to groups or interacting with others

1a. To what extent does this child show age-appropriate functioning across a variety of settings and situations on this outcome?

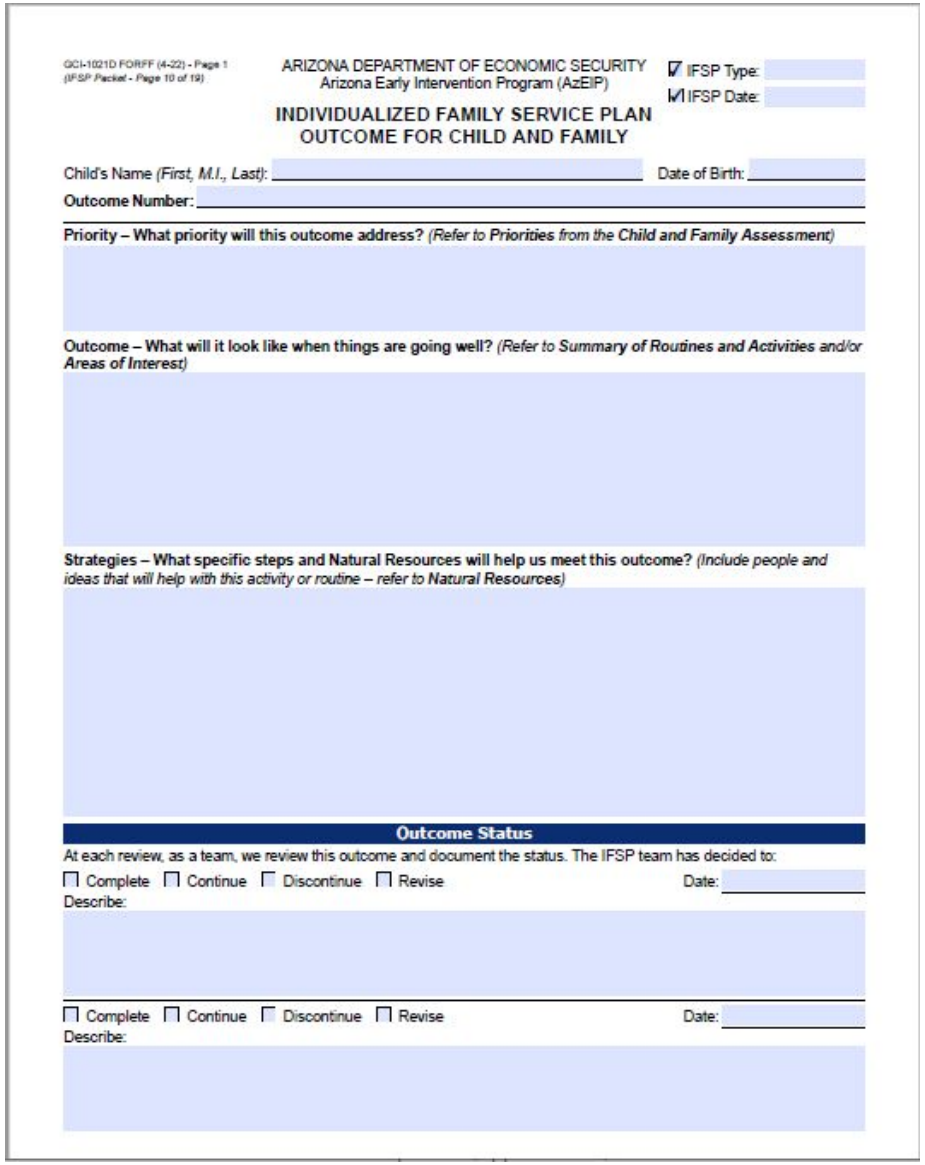
Completely		Sometimes		Emerging		Not Yet
☐ 7	☐ 6	☐ 5	☐ 4	☐ 3	☐ 2	☐ 1

1b. Describe skills or behaviors related to positive social-emotional skills (including positive social relationships).

Has the child made progress since the last rating? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) Child Outcomes

The Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) child outcomes are written specifically for the child based on the family's priorities and concerns.



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Arizona Early Intervention Program (AzEIP)

☑ IFSP Type:
☑ IFSP Date:

INDIVIDUALIZED FAMILY SERVICE PLAN
OUTCOME FOR CHILD AND FAMILY

Child's Name *(First, M.I., Last)*: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Outcome Number: _____

Priority – What priority will this outcome address? *(Refer to Priorities from the Child and Family Assessment)*

Outcome – What will it look like when things are going well? *(Refer to Summary of Routines and Activities and/or Areas of Interest)*

Strategies – What specific steps and Natural Resources will help us meet this outcome? *(Include people and ideas that will help with this activity or routine – refer to Natural Resources)*

Outcome Status

At each review, as a team, we review this outcome and document the status. The IFSP team has decided to:

☐ Complete ☐ Continue ☐ Discontinue ☐ Revise Date: _____
Describe:

☐ Complete ☐ Continue ☐ Discontinue ☐ Revise Date: _____
Describe:

Child Outcomes Summary

(Child Indicators Summary)

Where is the Child Outcomes Summary Documented?

Documented on:

- Child Indicators within the Individualized Family Service Plan (GCI-1021A)
  - Initial
  - Annual
- Child Indicators Summary (GCI-1021C)
  - Periodic Reviews
  - Prior to exit

Recorded in I-TEAMS Child Indicator Summary page

When is the Child Outcomes Summary Completed?

- A Child Outcomes Summary must be completed at entry and exit to meet federal requirements.
- AzEIP requires that periodic ratings be completed for continuous data collection as long as the child has an active IFSP.
  - Entry
  - At a minimum every six (6) months
  - Annual
  - Exit

Why are Child Outcome Summary Ratings Collected?

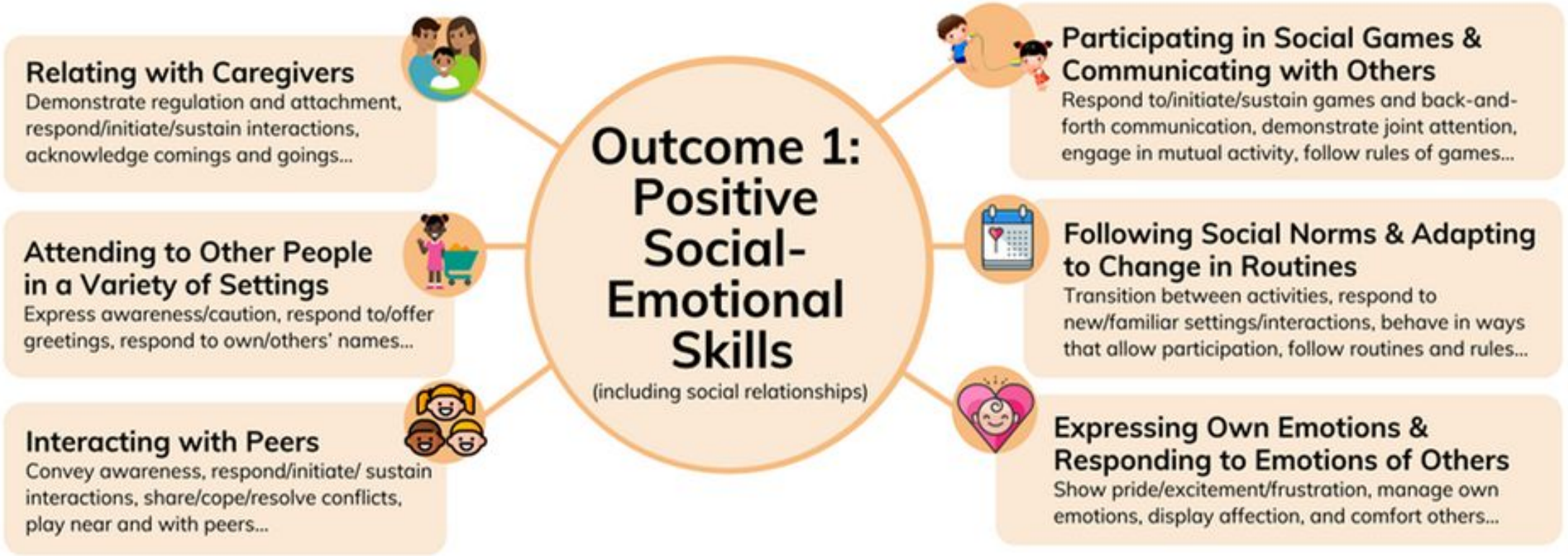
- The Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) requires that states report on data from Child Outcomes as a part of the state's Annual Performance Report (APR)
- Capturing the same data on all children in a program helps everyone (families, local programs, community members, state agencies, etc.):
  - Know how well individual programs are serving children and families
  - Have an overall picture of how all programs are doing
  - Identify areas for program improvement
- Thoughtful analysis of child outcomes data is key to making good decisions about how to improve services for children and families

Child Outcomes Sample Script for Explaining to Families

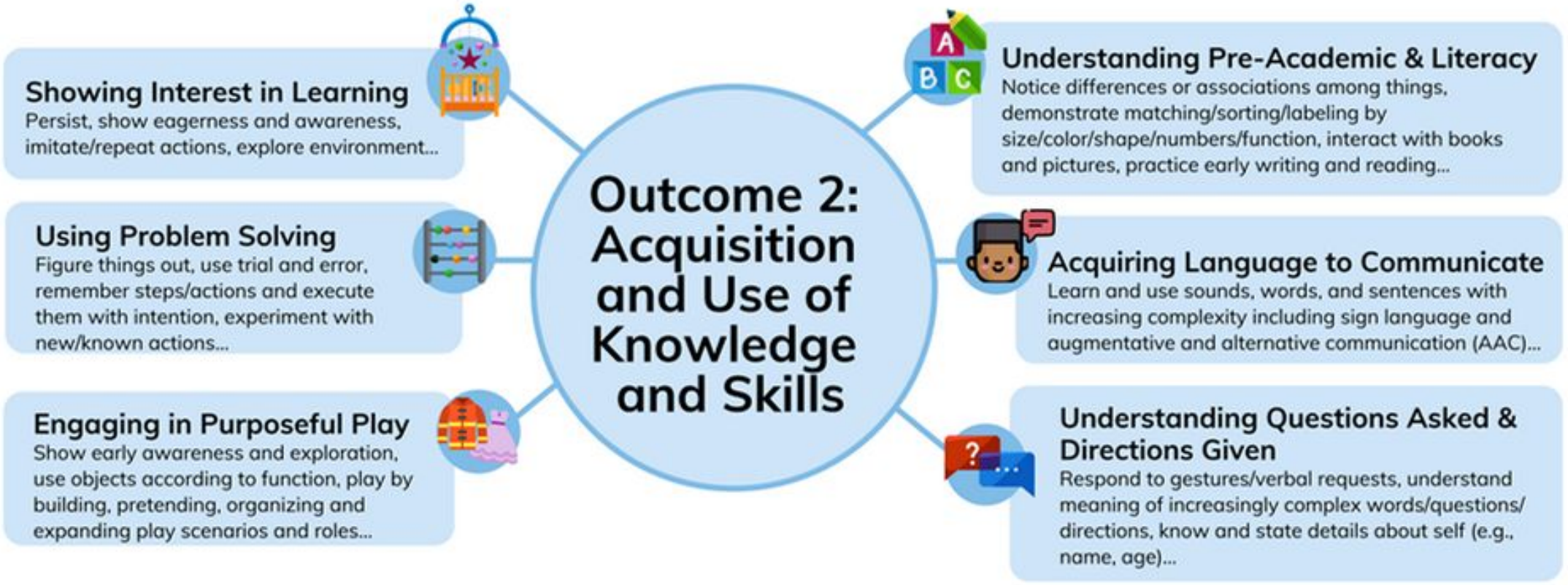
- You are a critical part of the child's development and education.
- It is our goal to help you understand and meaningfully participate in the Child Outcomes Summary process for your child.
- The three child outcomes focus on what your child can do in his or her everyday routines and activities at home and in the community.
- While Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) outcomes are written specifically for your child, these three child outcomes are the same for everyone.
- The Child Outcomes are looking at your child's skills in comparison to other children the same age as your child before and after receiving early intervention services.
- The information gathered about your child will also help you develop individual outcomes and goals for your child's IFSP.
- To learn more about the Child Outcomes Summary process, we recommend you view the Child Outcomes Step by Step Video.

(Edelman, L. (Producer). (2011). Child Outcomes Step-by-Step (Video). Published collaboratively by ResultsMatter, Colorado Department of Education; Desired Results access Project, Napa County Office of Education; and Early Childhood Outcomes Center. Retrieved from https://draccess.org/videolibrary)

What Skills Are Associated with Outcome 1?



What Skills Are Associated with Outcome 2?



What Skills Are Associated with Outcome 3?

Characteristics of the Three Child Outcomes

- **Integrated across domains**:
  - Include skills from multiple developmental domains
  - Functioning brings together skills across domains in complex and interconnected ways
- **Functional**:
  - Skills a young child uses to complete tasks and participate in meaningful activities in everyday life
  - Team can easily identify the child's intent and purpose when using a skill
  - Can be found in a child's meaningful use of the skill
- **Global**:
  - Benefits expected for all children participating in the program as a result of their experiences with the services
  - Not individualized like IFSP outcomes
- **Interdependent with family outcomes**:
  - Positive outcomes experienced by the family promote child outcomes
  - Outcomes achieved by the child benefit the family

Child Outcomes Summary (COS) Process

The COS Process:

- Is a team decision-making process
- Provides a consistent way for teams to rate a child's functioning relative to age-expected behavior
- Utilizes the Child Indicator Summary Decision Tree to complete the 7-point rating scale
- Synthesizes all the information the team has gathered
- Includes a discussion with the family around their cultural expectations and how culture shapes the opportunities and ways in which a child demonstrates functional skills

COS Ratings

- Are a snapshot of the child's overall functioning at a given point in time
- Require information about the child's everyday functioning across a variety of settings and from multiple sources
- Synthesize information when functioning differs across contexts
- Are based on functioning with the use of assistive technology
- Reflect functioning relative to same-aged peers
- Show the child's growth trajectory and skills acquired over time relative to same-aged peers
- Consider culture
- Are based on chronological age
- Are completed at entry, at exit, and at a minimum of every six months
- Include a yes/no question about progress the child has made

Age Anchoring

- Age anchoring is the process of examining a child's functional abilities, skills, and behaviors to determine how close a child is functioning to what is expected for their chronological age.
- It is important to focus on functional abilities rather than isolated (or discrete) skills that a child may have demonstrated only during assessment.
- Functional skills refer to abilities that are meaningful to the child in the context of naturally occurring routines and that the child integrates to achieve everyday goals.

Age Anchoring Tools

AzEIP highly recommends that SPAs utilize age anchoring tools whenever completing the Child Outcomes Summary.

Larimer Colorado Age-Anchoring Resources:

- Outcome 1
- Outcome 2
- Outcome 3

North Dakota Age-Anchoring Resources:

- North Dakota DPI Age Expectation Developmental Milestones Full Version
- North Dakota DPI Age Expectation Developmental Milestones Quick Reference

Decision Tree for Child Indicator Summary Rating Discussions

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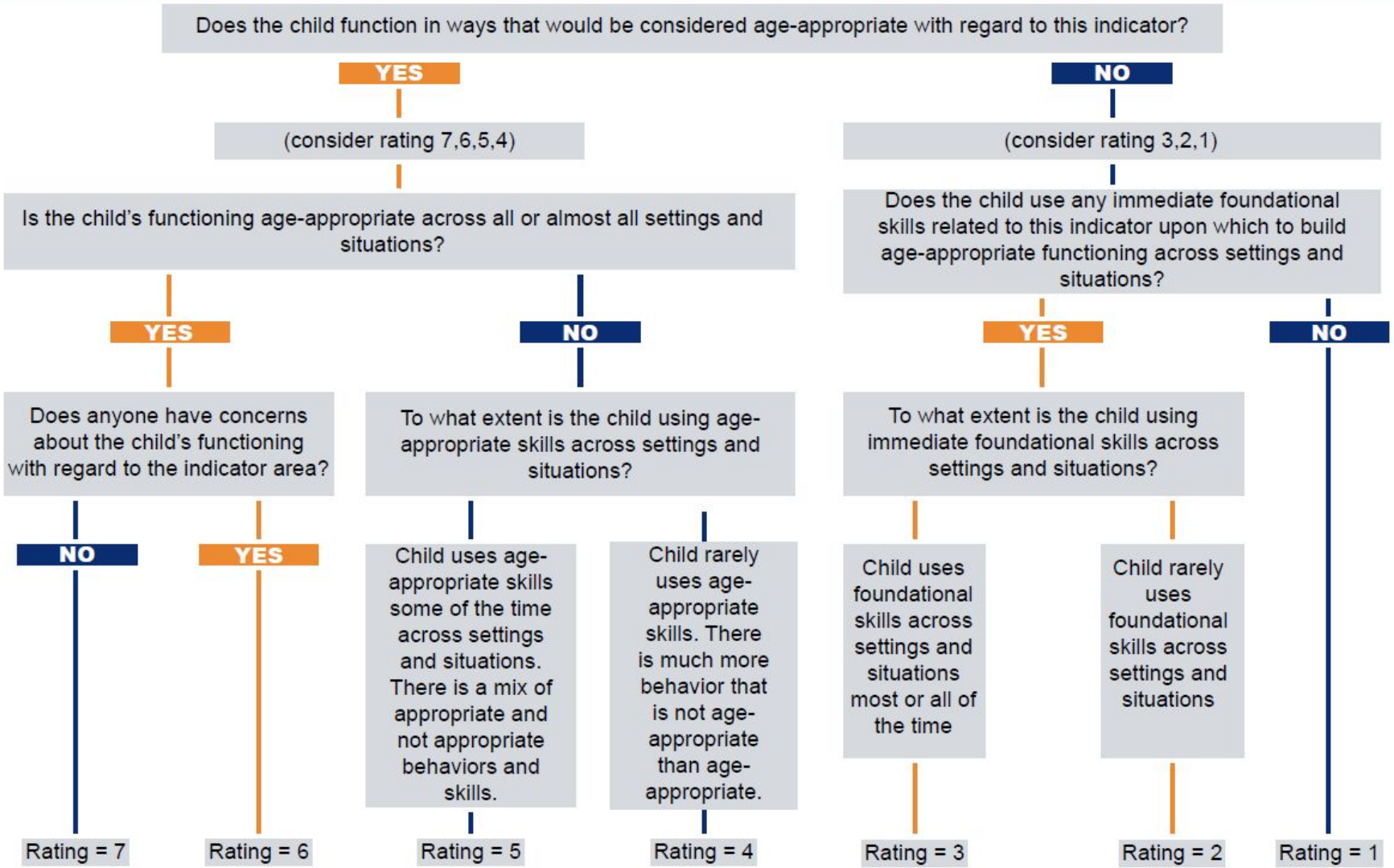
Arizona Early Intervention Program



It Takes a Team!

Team members involved in the COS process have five essential types of knowledge and understand:

- The three child outcomes and how they interconnect across domains
- Age-expected child development
- The child's functioning across settings and situations
- Age expectations for child functioning within the child and family's culture
- How to use the 7-point rating scale

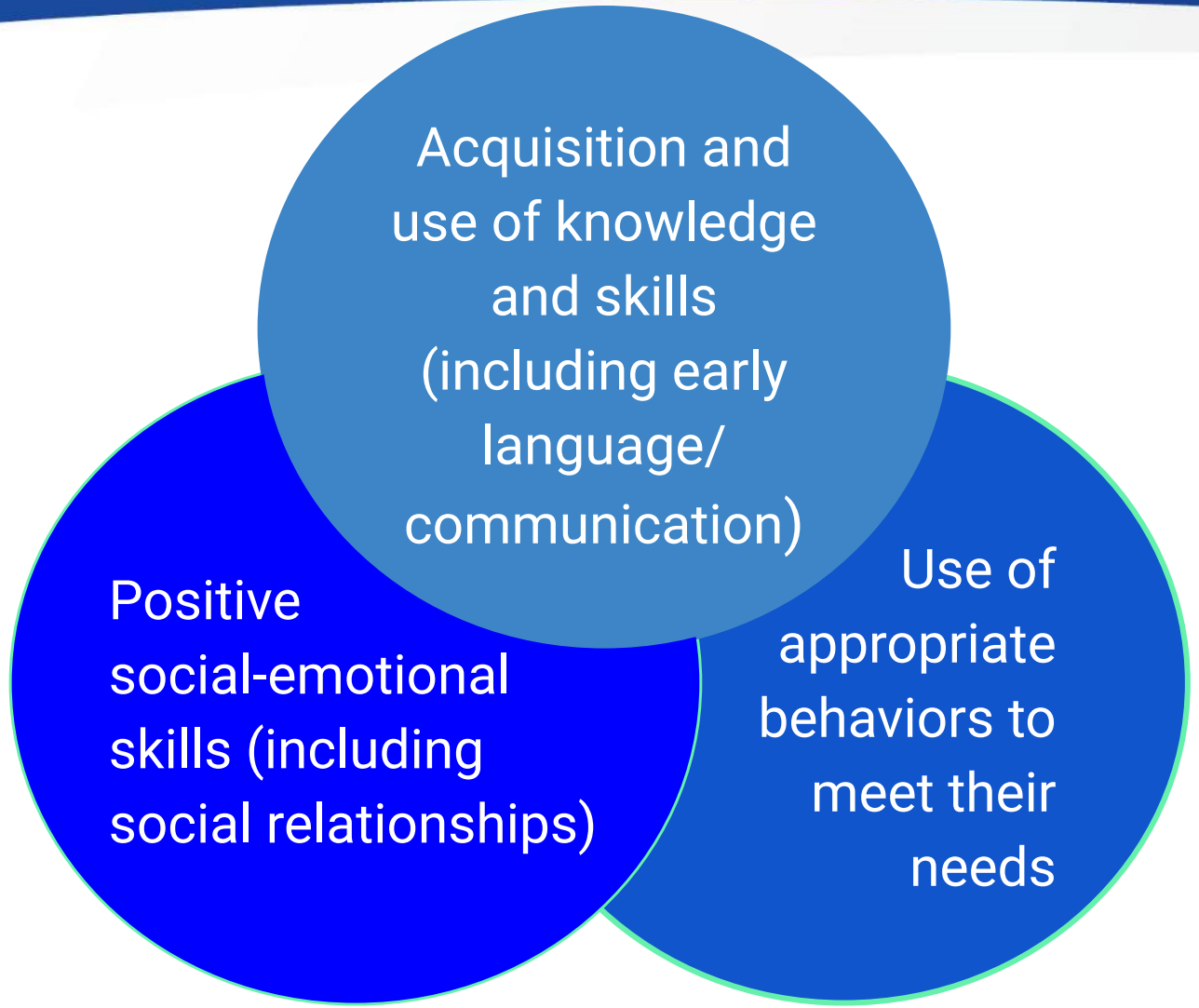
Supporting the Family

The IFSP Team, which includes the family, collaborate together to complete the Child Outcomes Summary.

The Team supports the family in completing the summary by:

- Reviewing the COS ratings process and form with the family
- Providing examples of age expected skills
- Walking the family through the Decision Tree
- Summarizing the skills included in each Child Indicator
- Reviewing the child's summary with the family

Functioning in one area related to functioning in other areas



Functioning in one outcome area will be related to functioning in the other outcome areas.

- Functioning at entry in one outcome is related to functioning at entry in the other outcomes
- Functioning at exit in one outcome is related to functioning at exit in the other outcomes
- Progress between entry and exit in one outcome is related to progress in the other outcomes

Reliable and Consistent Data

A Child Outcomes Summary has the highest probability of having reliable and consistent data when the entire team completing the summary has access to and utilizes:

- Age Anchoring Tool(s)
- Definitions of Ratings
- Decision Tree

I-TEAMS Child Outcomes Report

The I-TEAMS Child Outcomes Report:

- Gives cumulative details about the:
  - 3 child indicators
  - Progress categories
  - Reason indicators were not completed (as applicable)
- Can be run for any date range (maximum of 3 yrs)

Steps to Run Child Outcomes Report

I-TEAMS Manual

1. Click on My Reports from the Home Page.
2. Select Child Outcomes Report.
3. Select Start Date.
4. Select End Date.
5. Select Contracts.
6. Click on View Report.
7. Click on Open or Save to view or download the report.

Progress Categories Reported to OSEP

a. Did not improve functioning

b. Improved functioning, but not sufficient to move nearer to functioning of same-aged peers

c. Improved functioning to a level nearer same-aged peers, but did not reach it

d. Improved functioning to reach a level comparable to same-aged peers

e. Maintained functioning at a level comparable to same-aged peers

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Federal Reporting Categories for Child Outcomes Data

Progress Category	Explanation	COSF Ratings
a. Did not improve functioning	Children who acquired no new skills or regressed during their time in the program.	Rated lower at exit than entry; OR Rated 1 at both entry and exit; AND Scored "No" on the progress question (b)
b. Improved functioning, but not sufficient to move nearer to functioning comparable to same-aged peers	Children who acquired new skills but continued to grow at the same rate throughout their time in the program.	Rated 5 or lower at entry; AND Rated the same or lower at exit; AND "Yes" on the progress question (b) OR Rated 6 or 7 at entry; AND Rated 5 or lower at exit; AND "Yes" on the progress question
c. Improved functioning to a level nearer to same-aged peers but did not reach it	Children who acquired new skills but accelerated their rate of growth during their time in the program. They were making progress toward catching up with their same aged peers but were still functioning below age expectations when they left the program.	Rated higher at exit than entry; AND Rated 5 or below at exit
d. Improved functioning to reach a level comparable to same-aged peers	Children who were functioning below age expectations when they entered the program but were functioning at age expectations when they left.	Rated 5 or lower at entry; AND Rated 6 or 7 at exit
e. Maintained functioning at a level comparable to same-aged peers	Children who were functioning at age expectations when they entered the program and were functioning at age expectations when they left.	Rated 6 or 7 at entry; AND Rated 6 or 7 at exit

In Closing…

"We want all children to have positive relationships, be effective learners, and become individuals who can meet their own needs.

By supporting mastery of these three outcomes, we are helping children participate successfully in their homes, communities, and schools."

Taken from: Child Outcomes Step by Step Video (Edelman, L. (Producer). (2011). Child Outcomes Step-by-Step (Video). Published collaboratively by ResultsMatter, Colorado Department of Education; Desired Results access Project, Napa County Office of Education; and Early Childhood Outcomes Center. Retrieved from https://draccess.org/videolibrary)

Topic Specific Reminders

- The IFSP Team ensures that the data on the Child Outcomes Summary accurately reflects the child's functional skills.
- The Child Outcomes Summary:
  - Must be unique to the child
  - Identifies the child's functioning in comparison to their same-aged peers
  - Provides a consistent way for teams to rate a child's functioning relative to age-expected behavior at a specific point in time
- The goal is to ensure early intervention services support the family in increasing the quality of the child's functioning within their family's daily routines and activities, the focus is not on the ratings.

General Reminders

For children who are residing in the hospital at time of the AzEIP referral:

- If the Service Providing Agency is unable to reach the family and there is a Consent to Share with the hospital included in the referral information, contact the hospital for assistance in reaching the family.

For children who are residing in the hospital at the time of the DDD referral:

- Ensure the assigned DDD Eligibility Specialist has the contact information for the hospital's point of contact.
- If the DDD Eligibility Specialist identifies that they do not have all the medical information necessary to determine a child's eligibility, communicate with the hospital's contact to attempt to obtain the necessary medical documentation.

Children AzEIP-eligible based on an established condition may require a formal assessment to be completed for the DDD Eligibility Team to determine DDD Eligibility.

General Reminders

- Service Providing Agencies may offer telehealth options to families when the family has identified that in-person services do not meet their unique needs.
- The Prior Written Notice (GCI-1050A) has been updated to include the date the team proposes to identify the child as AzEIP eligible.
- When Service Coordinators are submitting a DDD Eligibility Application they should ensure I-TEAMS has pushed to FOCUS so that the application may be processed without delay.
- Service Coordinators are encouraged to refer to the AzEIP Job Aid Service Coordinator Monthly Family Contact to assist in preparing for their monthly service delivery visits with families.

Resources

Resources we would like to share

- AzEIP Policy Manual
- AzEIP Procedure Manual
- Child Indicators Summary (GCI-1021C)
- Individualized Family Service Plan (GCI-1021A)
- Decision Tree for Child Indicator Summary Rating Discussions (GCI-1168A)

Standards of Practice - Child Outcomes Summary Process

ECTA/DaSy COS Module Training: Child Outcomes Summary

Child Outcomes Summary Process Modules

1. So What's This All About?
2. Overview of the COS Process
3. Completing the COS Process
4. The 7-Point Scale
5. Determining a Rating
6. Good Teaming, Good Decisions
7. Documenting the COS Rating
8. The Exit COS Rating

COS Resources

- Training and use of the Decision Tree for Child Indicator Summary Rating Discussions is key in the process to identify consistent ratings.
- For more information, see:
  - ECTA Center: Child Outcomes Summary (COS) Form and Instructions
  - Definitions for Child Outcomes Summary (COS) Ratings
  - COS Process Professional Development
  - COS Process Online Module
  - COS Process Quick Reference Guide
  - Topical COS Professional Development Activities
  - Federal Reporting Categories
- Age Anchoring Tools:
  - Age Anchoring Guidance for Determining Child Outcomes Summary (COS) Ratings
  - ECTA Center: Child Outcomes: Child Development Resources
  - Larimer County Age Anchoring Tool Outcome 1
  - Larimer County Age Anchoring Tool Outcome 2
  - Larimer County Age Anchoring Tool Outcome 3
  - North Dakota DPI Age Expectation Developmental Milestones Full Version
  - North Dakota DPI Age Expectation Developmental Milestones Quick Reference

Thank you for attending!

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